

LEND A HAND.

A RECORD OF PROGRESS.

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THE West Side of New York City is that region which lies between Central Park and the Hudson River, and extending northward from 59th Street to 110th Street. The lower half of this strip, between 59th and 85th Streets, is rapidly closing up its vacant lots and with them the few shanties which remain as relics of a picturesque past. Here within ten years have been built over three thousand houses; a little town of pleasant homes, with a population of about 15,000 persons. In the pleasant apartment houses near the Park are perhaps 5,000 more. Thus one-half of a population of 40,000 occupies some fifty built-up blocks.

“The other half” are allowed to occupy about one-fourth as much room. Between 59th and 68th Streets, along 10th Avenue and the river side is a population almost as dense as any in the city. Worthy of notice, however, is the fact that in this case “the other half” is literally but a half, and not nine-tenths of the population. The West Side, which will be New York’s “West End,” has its “East End” near at hand. They will be neighbors, a fortunate circumstance; fortunate, not because it is comforting to know that the poor are always with us, for there cannot be many sincere persons who still consciously believe in the gospel of alms giving

for the rich, and resignation for the poor. It is a fortunate circumstance because all the conditions combine to give an opportunity here for making visible, in some way, the invisible tie of universal relationship among all men.

Among the thousands crowded together in those few blocks are many earnestly striving to maintain their homes against difficulties of all kinds. Among the dwellers in the larger region above and surrounding them are many striving to make their homes all that they should be, with their greater material advantages. What is to be their influence upon their neighbors in the streets below? And, even more important, what is to be the influence of those below upon those above? If it be true that extremes meet, here is a chance to test it, for the one population is as poor in everything but ready neighborly service as the other is rich in everything—else! But the world is learning the gospel of personal friendship and neighborly service, learning to recognize the universal relationship, learning that the benefit to arise from this recognition may be greater for the well-to-do than for the poor, not on the principle of the reward of merit, but by the many subtle influences which tend to open the mind and heart.

That an open purse is a means of grace is a belief which may be held by hypocrites and by the most open hearted persons alike, though from opposite reasons and motives. Unless the mind is open to the necessity of continual development and change, in individuals and institutions, and to the possible tendencies of such change, and the causes as well, the chances are great that the open purse may do harm to the giver if he hopes for reward; to the receiver if he hopes to get more.

Among those of our community who have had greater material advantages we may find some persons believing wholly in the efficacy of the open purse, and seldom, if ever, opening it; who literally think they give a part of themselves with their name on a check. If they think so it may be so!

At the other extreme, we could find a few, profoundly sincere in their literal acceptance of the universal human bond, living their lives among the poor in anticipation, as it were, of the possible changes of time.

Between these two extremes we may naturally expect to find many persons earnestly striving, each in his own way, to bridge over the natural gulf between themselves and their poorer neighbors, and more or less conscious of the difficulties. The first obstacle lies in the personal equation, the result of temperament or of training, to be worked out by each, and to be finally solved by co-operation with others.

A great general difficulty lies in the fact that in any effort at friendly intercourse between the rich and the poor, the man with better opportunities and greater privileges must go more than half way. It must always be so, unless, or until, he shall be ready to go the whole way, in some other social state.

Among those who may be ready to go more than half way in this endeavor we may find some whom enthusiasm for a new idea, and the very necessity of going so far, may lead for a time to mistake the idea and methods of personal service for the thing itself; so constant is the tendency to mistake means for ends. It is possible for such persons even to become like little despots in their eagerness and hurry to teach democracy.

On the other hand an equally earnest but more cautious person may tend to exaggerate the difficulties involved, so far as to hesitate at every plan suggested, since a plan must be more or less experimental; and yet without a plan nothing can be done. For the same reasons in seeking personal intercourse with his poorer neighbors, such a cautious person, in his fear of intruding upon their privacy or their poverty, is apt to fail in reaching the degree of sympathy which may arise from that frank acceptance of the difference which, by a paradox, is sometimes the best way of ignoring it. Until the time, if ever it comes, when history and language shall have developed other and better words than

"rich" and "poor," there is no use in trying to avoid them. Indeed, by a franker use of them and with increasing intimacy between the rich and the poor, these words might begin to lose their importance until they should become obsolete in the material world some day, as they are insignificant always in the immaterial world.

Among the many things to be remembered by those in our community who are brought face to face with the material and intellectual difficulties in this crusade of personal service, most important of all, and, happily, most frequent of mention, in these days, are the far reaching possibilities of its influence upon all classes, and especially upon the enlightened and well-to-do, affecting both individuals and institutions, sometimes by apparent processes, often through unconscious development.

Among the institutions in our community there may possibly be churches apparently unwilling to change their ancient methods; but even in such churches we would expect to find a strong minority in opposition. Other churches have entered the field of active personal service under the leadership of a wise pastor intent on developing in his congregation a truer Christianity, as one of the results of their unselfish efforts for and friendship with their poorer neighbors.

We shall find some persons from the various churches interested in the question of union and co-operation as of the first importance in the development of the necessary machinery, by which neighborly service may best reach its ends, and of which it is the life; and these persons will be fully conscious of the worse than uselessness of the machinery without the life.

We shall find the Roman Catholics doing their full share of the good work, and alive to the importance of adding to their great establishment every new and approved device for the cure of souls; let it be, as it may be, in part, for the glory of the church itself. At the other extreme, but probably doing the very same kind of work, we may find some persons interested first of all in life itself, and second-

arily in the question of the influence of such ideas and methods as these of personal service upon character, and through character and the individual upon institutions. We shall probably find that these two classes of persons will have a good deal in common, a case of extremes meeting, perhaps. For instance, they are both among the strongest supporters of Charity Organizations, the Roman Catholics perhaps because of its systematic method, the others on account of the simplicity and sweep of its organization.

To the good people in our new community who find it so difficult to understand or to sympathize with Charity Organization, the machinery of its organization must appear so formidable that they cannot believe its charity to be the pure idea of personal service. Indeed this is perhaps the only positively safe organization that has to do with the social questions, for the simple reason that it is not tied to any theory or devoted to any particular scheme. Its friendly visitors are not expected to subscribe to any such scheme, but simply to visit their neighbors and to establish real friendship with them. In its relations with institutions which do have particular plans or schemes, the object of Charity Organization is educational, for and by union and co-operation. The adjective "scientific" is properly applied to Charity Organization, but by its critics often as a term of pious opprobrium. But is it not possible that its simplicity and directness is as purely religious as it is scientific? The charity of religion is simple personal service; is not the religion of charity the same thing? And are not all human schemes for the development of this idea, or for any social improvement, necessarily more or less questions of Political or Social Science? Is not the church the external development of the idea of two or three gathering together in the name of the Master? And may not the meaning be lost in the material expression? For instance, when the two or three for any reason become in any degree exclusive, are they not apt to forget who may be the first to be shut out?

So with regard to many of the modern social schemes. It

is possible to imagine a boys' club which would tend to separate them from their parents, much as men's clubs may separate them from their wives. But it is hardly necessary to say where charity begins.

A true record of the condition and progress of our district would be the inner history of its homes. We can only hope to know something of this indirectly and through the senses. If we visit the streets among the sixties the first thing to appeal to our senses is the condition of the streets. But the New York streets are of national ill-fame.

The next noticeable thing is the number of children in the streets. Many residents of the district would not believe that perhaps one-fourth of the children of school age are not at school for lack of room. The principal of the new primary school at 68th Street has refused admission to more than 400 since the school was first opened in September last. Of the 900 children in her school the majority are in the sixth grade, having never been to school before, though of all ages up to 9 years and more. There are 1,500 all told in the 68th Street school. It is impossible to say when the next new school, so much needed, will be built. So much, or rather so little for public works in this district. The Paulist Fathers have a Parochial School at 59th Street with room for 600 children, and in 64th Street there is a school of the Childrens' Aid Society with 200 children, leaving in the streets something less than 1,000 children of school age.

In schools, as in everything else, the Roman Catholics were the first to enter the field. In connection with the Paulist church there are various clubs: one of young men, with their own building and a membership of 400, membership terminating upon marriage! Perhaps the most important club, and the most recent, is for large boys, with 150 members, reading rooms, entertainments, etc. There is also a large club of young women. The rector of the next parish, at 71st Street, is a lover of children; on week days keeping his large rooms open for school children, for games and reading after school.

Among the other denominations there are little indications here of a desire to plant mission schools of the kind that lie idle all the week. The most active mission is Baptist, the superintendent, of Salvation Army growth, living with his family in the district and giving all his time to every kind of practical work and assistance.

The ladies of one of the rich churches uptown, upon discovering last winter that there was only one child in the whole Sunday School in any possible need of help, made up their minds to open a Parish House, but for purely secular work. As a result they have had a busy winter in a house in 61st Street, devoted to the various purposes of kindergarten, sewing schools, boys' clubs, an employment agency, etc.

The members of one of the Presbyterian churches, meeting the same difficulty a little earlier, had already, about a year ago, opened rooms for exactly the same purposes at 66th Street. The plan of work being purely secular, their first effort has been to get workers and friends everywhere and from all denominations. They are incorporated as the Riverside Association. Further study of the question and of similar work being done elsewhere, led them this year to try to enlarge their plan. Thinking of building a house to contain accommodations for all the essential features, such as baths, reading rooms, school rooms, a hall, etc., they were considering two lots in 62nd Street when they found that the two adjoining lots were being considered by the people of the Parish House, with the same object in view. The Riverside Association has since acquired the temporary use of an excellent building for gradually developing their work. It would seem that for work of the kind they must have the better position, with all the important advantages of the general principle of co-operation. Their advantages will be real ones only so far as they succeed in obtaining real co-operation, with economy to the workers, as well as financial. In their present rooms at 66th Street they have a very active boys' club, and a small club of men, a reading room, sewing and cooking classes, etc. In the fall they will

have in addition spray baths for both sexes, classes in physical culture, a circulating library, and plan to develop regular schools of domestic science and manual training. Their motto is friendship, better living, and a better life.

At about the time when their room at 66th Street was opened, a year ago, a Children's Aid School was opened in 64th Street and filled in two weeks. It is fortunate in having a most excellent principal, who, with her assistants, is trying to make the school a centre of general usefulness in its neighborhood, through their close relationship with the children, becoming acquainted with the families in the most natural way, and gradually learning to understand their difficulties and their needs, and to help them in many ways. The kindergarten and its method are the main features of the school. In the building are held also several cooking, sewing and drawing classes.

Here we see started in our community, in less than a year, three separate efforts to meet the demands of the day for organization of volunteer forces in behalf of the poor, and in their own behalf, with the very valuable aid of paid workers to give continuity and strength to the work. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of the 59th Street church has been longer in the field, giving employment to the unemployed, and sometimes other aid when needed.

The thing that remains to be developed is some recognized co-operative or co-ordinating force between these institutions and all other societies or persons in the district doing similar work. As for questions of overlapping or interference in efforts to help their poorer neighbors to help themselves, they will be met by the new agency of the Charity Organization Society, about to be established in the district.

The more difficult social questions involved in the more experimental features of the effort must be approached gradually and generally must be settled by time. In approaching the necessarily implicated question of municipal affairs, which cannot be and should not be avoided, it is

worth while to remember again that personal effort is the thing that counts. Let us believe that our community will not leave this question altogether to Time.

THE SINGER'S ALMS.

BY HENRY ABBEY.

In Lyons, in the mart of that French town,
A pallid woman, leading a fair child,
Craved a small alms of one who, walking down
The thoroughfare, caught the child's glance and smiled
To see, behind its eyes, a noble soul.
He paused to give, but found he had no dole.
His guardian angel warned him not to lose
This chance of pearl to do another good ;
So, as he waited, sorry to refuse
The asked for penny, there aside he stood,
And, with his hat held as by limb the nest,
He covered his kind face, and sang his best.
The sky was blue and mild, and all the place
Of commerce where the singer stood was filled.
The many paused, the passer-by slacked pace
To hear the voice that through and through him thrilled.
I think the guardian angel helped along
That cry for pity woven in a song.
The singer stood between the beggars there
Before a church, and, overhead, the spire,
A slim, perpetual finger in the air
Held toward heaven, land of the heart's desire,
As if an angel, pointing upward, said
"Yonder a crown awaits this singer's head."
The hat of its stamped brood was emptied soon
Into the woman's lap, who drenched with tears
Her kiss upon the hand of help ; 'twas noon
And noon in her glad heart drove forth her fears.
The singer, pleased, passed on, and said in thought,
"Men will not know by whom this deed was wrought."

But when at night he came upon the stage
Cheer after cheer rose from the crescent throng,
And flowers rained on him ; naught could assuage
The tumult of the welcome, save the song,
That he superbly sang, with hidden face
For the two beggars in the market place.

HULL HOUSE.

BY HENRY BARRETT LEARNED.

[We are all poor, and we cannot help each other without really coming together. Every question which has to do either with the prevention of pauperism or the relief of poverty is properly solved so far as we can bring together the lives of people who are really determined not to live selfishly but in a common order, for a common purpose. This direction of life by one spirit, which is best called the Holy Spirit, is the direction which the Christian religion proposes. What we call the Christian Church has succeeded whenever it has attempted to work the great miracles in this spirit of mutual love ; it has failed as certainly whenever it has been satisfied with established machinery of whatever kind or of whatever history.

What we now call our Neighborhood Guilds, University Settlements, or by different names which indicate the determination on the part of people to come together, are simply so many manifestations of a spirit as old as that which showed itself when the Saviour of men ate and drank with publicans and sinners, or when he welcomed in them who came to minister to him. Give and take is the law, and this law must carry itself into practice, not by any formal methods which involve long-distance operations. We do not find it easy, when we work with the tongs, and we do not want to send messengers to do the duty which we ought to do ourselves. With rather too much of the impression that a new discovery has been made the "Settlements" of various kinds have gone forward and done their

work, and have succeeded perhaps, in proportion to the extent to which they have attempted this work without much flourish of banners or blowing of trumpets.

Without ridiculing blowing of trumpets or display of banners, it is necessary that one part of the world shall know what another part of the world is doing. At our earnest request Mr. Learned has contributed a paper for this number of *LEND A HAND* on Hull House, where they seem to have solved some of the difficulties with a peculiar success. In this number and in other numbers of *LEND A HAND* it will be our pleasure to follow up Mr. Learned's account by similar accounts of the best successes attained in other quarters. In Boston we have several centres, some of which have the experience of some years; and New York, Philadelphia, Buffalo and the other large cities are following in the same line. And the experience of each one gives so much encouragement and suggestion for the others.—EDITOR.]

In his address entitled "Democracy," Mr. Lowell has reminded us of Theodore Parker's saying that Democracy means not "I'm as good as you are," but "You're as good as I am." And in one form or another the ideal here expressed has taken shape. Perhaps nothing is more characteristic of it than the so-called Settlement Movement which, beginning about ten years ago with Toynbee Hall, London, has already gained recognition in this country. From the many efforts to approach this ideal, at least four in the settlement line of work have deserved notice.

Early in 1887 Dr. Stanton Coit, since known by his work in London as lecturer of the South Place Ethical Society and as author of "Neighborhood Guilds," a volume in the *Social Science Series*, founded a Neighborhood Guild at 146 Forsyth Street, New York. Beginning as a club for poor lads of about eighteen it held its meetings in the basement of a tenement, in the upper part of which Dr. Coit lived. Gradually the enterprise was extended so as to number several clubs. The latest reports are of a settlement for University men—the outgrowth of Dr. Coit's efforts in 1887.

In September, 1889, Hull House was opened by two women—Miss Jane Addams and Miss Ellen Gates Starr—at 335 South Halsted Street, Chicago, in the midst of one of the poorest districts of the city. "It represented no association, but was opened by two women, supported by many friends, in the belief that the mere foothold of a house, easily accessible, ample in space, hospitable and tolerant in spirit, situated in the midst of the large foreign colonies which so easily isolate themselves in American cities, would be in itself a serviceable thing for Chicago."

In the spring of 1890 a College Settlements' Association was organized for the support and control of college settlements for women. It has, according to its third annual report, three centres. The oldest settlement is at 95 Rivington Street, New York; a second, started in April, 1892, is on St. Mary Street, Philadelphia; and a third, of later origin, is at 93 Tyler Street, Boston. At present there are eleven colleges for women represented, and the total membership for the Association is 765.

In the March number of *Scribner's* Prof. Tucker has written of the work of Andover House, Boston, at 6 Rollins Street. He speaks of the house as "a home where a group of educated young men—chiefly, but not necessarily, those who have had a theological training—live, study, and work" among the neighboring poor. The house is supported by an association, organized in October, 1891, and numbering at present about 300 members.

At the outset I would express my indebtedness to two notable articles by Miss Addams which appeared in the October and November numbers of the *Forum*. The first article—"An effort toward Social Democracy"—is a descriptive account of the work of Hull House; the second,—"A New Impulse to an Old Gospel"—treats "of the subjective necessity for Social Settlement," and analyzes the motives underlying any such movement. It presents with rare discrimination the philosophy of the settlement movement, and will reward the reader who cares to consider the profound side of the subject.

About 1856 a certain Charles J. Hull, dealer in real estate in the city of Chicago,—containing at that time 84,000 people—built what in those days must have been looked upon as an unusually ample residence. It was a square building of brick, two stories in height, with a wide front door and generous windows on either side. It faced the east, and was about a mile from Lake Michigan. The interior hall-way was wide; the rooms on either side were spacious and high, with elaborate cornices and ceiling decorations, ornaments peculiar to the time, many of which have since been removed. The wood-work, the casings of the doors and windows had been carved by convict hands, and still remains.

Naturally the growth of the city was toward the west, and soon the house, once in the open-air suburbs, was surrounded by poorer dwellings and factories, and assumed the grimy appearance of all buildings in a smoky neighborhood. It retained, withal, a certain dignity by reason of its position, some rods back from the thoroughfare, and its old-fashioned style of architecture. On Sunday night, October 8, 1871, what was to be known as the great Chicago fire broke out not four blocks away from this mansion of Charles Hull, originating—so the story runs—in Mrs. O'Leary's barn in which a wayward cow kicked over a lamp. At all events, whether or not the story is a myth, the neighborhood was even then a poor one. Fourteen thousand buildings were destroyed; but the house built before the war was preserved for better days. Enough to say that it had gone through many changes when, in 1889, it was taken for its new mission, re-fashioned slightly in the inside and made comfortable for its two residents.

Halsted Street, Chicago, stretches away for thirty-two miles north and south. A stranger approaching Hull House from the north would probably be struck by the number of cheap shops, saloons and eating houses; by the foreign names upon the signs, and by advertisements occasionally seen in five or six different languages. If he were curious enough to count the saloons eight blocks north of Hull

House, he could easily discover as he walked no fewer than seventy-five.

According to a recent estimate the nineteenth ward, in which Hull House stands, contains 54,172 people. From this number there were 9,255 registered voters at the last presidential election. With 255 saloons the ward may reckon one saloon for every thirty-seven voters. In and near the ward there are ten thousand Italians, including Neapolitans, Sicilians, Calabrians, Lombards and Venetians. There is a very large colony of Bohemians. Russian Jews, Poles, Canadian-French, Germans and Irish in their various districts are numerous. And in all parts of the ward native Americans are to be found.

What is being done to educate this motley crowd? What means are taken to fit the children of this horde of foreigners for citizenship? There are seven churches and two missions in the ward, besides several *Cheoras*,* or associations of Jews formed for mutual aid and religious purposes. Only three of these religious centres conduct regularly a service in English. Seven parochial schools provide for 6,244 children. Three Protestant schools have 141 children in their charges. There are 6,976 school children in the ward, and the public schools provide according to actual sittings for 2,957.

In describing the methods of Toynbee Hall, a writer† has called attention to the aim of University (or College) Settlements in England. They seek (he quotes) "to link the Universities with East London, and to direct the human sympathies, the energies and the public spirit of Oxford and Cambridge to the actual conditions of town life," thus offering a kind of gateway into life for young and well-disposed men. Hull House has no formal connection with university or college.

*Mr. Charles Booth, in his *Life and Labor of the People*, has a chapter on "The Jewish Community." He speaks of the *Cheoras* of London as "associations which combine the functions of a benefit club for death, sickness, and the solemn rites of mourning with that of public worship and the study of the Talmud." See Vol. I, pt. III, chap. III, pp. 567-570.

†See a monograph on Arnold Toynbee and the work of Toynbee Hall in the *Johns Hopkins University Studies* for January, 1889.

It was formed by two women, and "calls itself a Social settlement, . . . an attempt to add the social function to the democracy, . . . and was opened on the theory that the dependence of classes on each other is reciprocal." The guiding spirit, then, of Hull House are two women who have established their home in the midst of this poor Chicago district. It is as much their choice to settle on South Halsted street as it would be for others to settle on Beacon street, Boston, or on Fifth avenue, New York. This one touch of nature on the part of two earnest women has made all sorts and conditions of men and women of closest kin. Those interested have no propaganda to fight for. They are not anxious or in a hurry about results. And in matters of religion there is absolute impartiality. Accosted a few nights ago by a poor Englishman in search of work, I could not help thinking of Hull House as he complained—in unmistakable dialect—of a well-known humanitarian institution as "a place that doesn't deal much in things temporal."

In what follows I shall describe briefly three characteristic efforts of Hull House to make social life in the immediate neighborhood free and natural. It will be well, then, to consider Hull House as an educational in a somewhat wider field, and finally I shall write of its more general work and influences.

THE WORKING PEOPLE'S SOCIAL SCIENCE CLUB was organized in the Spring of 1890, and has met weekly, excepting July and August, since that time. On Tuesday nights at eight o'clock you may find assembled in the long drawing room of Hull House about fifty men and women, chiefly working people of the neighborhood, who have come to listen to an address. The only prominent officer is the secretary. A chairman is chosen for the evening, and the speaker introduced. After an address of forty-five minutes the subject is open for discussion. At ten o'clock the meeting is adjourned.

The subject is arranged by an executive committee, and announced in print sometime beforehand. They are on social

and economic matters, and are treated for the most part by active men of affairs. The meetings are often like conferences between the working classes and their employers. Among the audience you will find mechanics, tailors, teamsters and cabmen. In speaking with the conductor of a car which passes Hull House, I found him to be a Norwegian who had been a common sailor on an English ship for twelve years. He spoke intelligently of his eminent countryman, Bjornson, and added that he went occasionally to Hull House to hear the discussions. It is evident that many of the men are foreigners: the speakers often have clear ideas, and generally firm convictions, but sometimes find the English language very unwieldy. Here are a few subjects and speakers selected from a long list: "Child Labor," Mrs. Florence Kelley; "The Nicaragua Canal," Hon. George E. Adams; "The Scab," Mr. Henry D. Lloyd; "Labor Organizations," Mr. Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor.

If you would have an idea of another phase of work of Hull House, go there of a Friday evening. That night the Germans of the neighborhood are received from eight to ten o'clock. There is no formal reception or entertainment. All are welcome—mothers, fathers, and children. But as you look around the circle of people seated about the large room, you will notice that it is composed mostly of women past middle life,—hard-worked and care-worn mothers whose faces tell a sadder story than words. Indeed, the gathering has always impressed me as an ideal "Mothers' Meeting,"—a meeting at which the recently arrived peasant-woman and her sister who has lived in this country long enough to forget some of the simpler ways of the land of her origin, may sing the *Volkslieder* together, and realize, at any rate for the moment, a broader perspective in this new-world life.

Some one is always at hand to lead at the piano, for singing from well-thumbed copies of German ballads is one of the chief amusements. Frequently there are games; and sometimes at the close of an evening there is dancing.

Already there has been simple reading from German history. But, as Miss Addams has said of her German friends, "Perhaps the greatest value of the settlement to them is in simply placing large and pleasant rooms and musical facilities at their disposal, and in reviving their almost forgotten enthusiasm for Körner and Schiller.

A Co-operative Club was started in May, 1892, and is now carried on by about forty self-supporting women. The Jane Club has its quarters on a side street not far from Hull House. The building, an apartment house rented for the purpose, faces the south and affords light, small rooms for its occupants. Besides the bed-rooms, in which each woman has her own bed, there are two parlors, three dining-rooms, a kitchen, and a laundry. The parlors and dining-rooms are tastefully furnished, provided with an upright piano, a desk, water colors, etchings, books, and the little things which go to make life home-like.

The organization is made as simple as is consistent with the plan. No woman gives her entire time to the club. The steward and the other officers (chosen for six months) form a committee of management. Meetings of the members are held once a week, at which the details of club-life pertaining to economy and the general welfare are talked over. New members may then be proposed. Once a member, a woman is put upon her own responsibility; she comes and goes at her will. She is pledged, however, to give at least one hour a week to the general domestic work, and to keep her room in order, or at any rate her part of a room. Any self-supporting, unmarried woman, or widow without dependent children, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, is eligible for membership. The number of women is limited to one hundred. At present the rooms will accommodate no more than forty. There is an initiation fee of one dollar. A member who leaves the city, by paying monthly the sum of twenty-five cents, is known as a non-resident member, and may be re-admitted at any time, taking precedence over new candidates.

As you meet these women of an evening in their pleasant parlors,—some of them writing, others reading, a group about the piano, or a few chatting of the day's concerns,—you would find it difficult to determine their occupations. During the day most of them are confined to the work of factories or shops, as book-binders, shoe-makers, shirt and cloak-makers. A few are engaged as type-writers. Several are kindergarteners. And one is employed in the Western Electric Works to guard wire, with wages of four dollars a week. The wages of these women range generally from four to fifteen dollars a week. The cost of board and lodging to each member in the Jane Club is three dollars a week. The monthly running expenses of the club are now about four hundred dollars. Most of the women do their own washing, so that frequently during a part of the evening five or six will be busy together in the laundry. Yet there is time for recreation. They sometimes hold a reception in their parlors, or they are invited by the residents to spend an evening at Hull House. Many of these women spend regularly one evening a week at the house, either as members of a class in calisthenics, as students of book-keeping, or at work in one of the reading circles. And thus the Jane Club, organized and carried on by self-supporting women under the influence of the Hull House, gives its members from various trades and occupations a genuine interest in one another, and affords rest and legitimate amusement to those whose lives would otherwise have little to raise them from a very dull and humdrum level.

Though Hull House has never been known as a college settlement so called, it has naturally interested many college-bred men and women in Chicago, especially those who could give an hour or so a week to teaching.

In the first winter a single class was carried on by the residents and a few of their neighbors devoted to the study of "Romola." Soon there were requests for special classes, coming mostly from young men and women in the neighborhood who were anxious to spend an evening a week in serious

work. The rule has been to form a class in any subject if six people are found to attend it regularly. At present there are thirty-four classes a week which meet from October to May under the general name "College Extension." And so Hull House has gradually gathered together a body of over two hundred men and women (most of them over twenty), at work under some willing leader.

The studies are carefully planned and may be divided under three heads: (a) English Literature and History, (b) Languages, including French, German, Italian and Latin, (c) Mathematics and Science. There are also classes in Drawing, Modelling, Painting and German needle-work. Six days out of seven, between four o'clock in the afternoon and ten at night, you will be sure to find groups of men and women at work in the various rooms. A fee of fifty cents to defray the expenses of lighting, heating, etc., is charged for twelve lessons extending over as many weeks. There is of course no attempt on the part of instructors to be formal. The students as a rule have had few advantages, and need every encouragement which sympathy and patience can offer. Yet the results are good. One of the instructors in German, himself a business man, told me that he received every week exercises from his pupils through the mails. A class which began Latin in the fall is now translating short passages from Cæsar. And one woman who has worked for several years under the direction of a college graduate expects to enter the University of Chicago this fall.

Not the least important consideration is the *continuity* of the work. This very winter there is a class in "Romola." The class in Shakespeare includes this year several of the early members; a few women have seldom missed an evening for three winters. And classes in Mathematics, Latin and Chemistry, have been steadily progressing from term to term.

In several ways Hull House is co-operating with educational movements in Chicago. Within the past winter the House has become known as one of twenty centres in the

city for University Extension. Lectures are given at stated times on various subjects, and are under the direction of the University Extension Division of the Chicago University. Credit is given by the University for satisfactory study-work tested by a final examination. At a recent course of six lectures on English Literature the average attendance was eighty-five. The lecturer received every week an average of nine papers written by members of the class.

For nearly two years the Chicago Public Library has had a branch reading room next door to Hull House. Above the reading room is the Butler Gallery so called, and a small studio. In the gallery from time to time there have been loan exhibitions of paintings and works of art. Each exhibition has been open for two weeks, and has had an average attendance of three hundred people a day.

Miss Starr has begun a work which, considering the little that is done by our schools to develop the taste of children for fine pictures, is certainly remarkable. In 1891, as she says, "I began to make a collection of such pictures within my reach as seemed to me valuable for schools. The first of these, mostly photographs of buildings of architectural and historic value, I gave to the public school nearest Hull House. After that it seemed better to form sets of pictures to be lent to schools and periodically exchanged." A similar system of circulating pictures has been successfully carried on in the schools of Manchester, England, under the direction of Mr. T. C. Horsfall.

Hull House itself has no lack of excellent pictures. The masterworks of the old painters as finely touched photographs are impressive. The great cathedrals of the Old World will catch the eye of many a man or woman who has known them as children in some foreign land. And it is something to make people familiar with the faces of Savonarola, Dante, George Eliot, Cardinal Newman, Emerson and Carlyle. The picture re-produced in the January *Century*, entitled "The Mother," the work of Miss Alice D. Kellogg, herself frequently seen at Hull House, was hung for some time in the drawing room.

From the nature of the case the more general work of Hull House cannot be described in detail. The settlement is now closely identified with the life of the neighborhood and with the wider life of Chicago. There are more than a thousand people who come weekly to the House from all parts of the city. At least a hundred of these take an active interest in directing the work. As visitors among the neighboring homes, as teachers in the college extension classes, as speakers before the clubs, or simply as friends of the residents—all aid in one way or another the effort of the Home to recognize the aspirations of the hard-worked, oppressed, and oftentimes ignorant people who live in this part of Chicago. But the really great influence of Hull House comes from the two women who founded it, and from the four or five others who as permanent residents are now associated with Miss Addams and Miss Starr.

At the Settlement on Rivington street in New York city the average period of residence is four months. And no woman is considered a "full resident" who has spent less than two months in the Settlement. At Andover House no resident is received for less than six months, and according to Prof. Tucker "the average term of service is more than a year." At Hull House you may find frequently women who have come to spend a few weeks in the Settlement to study some feature of the work, paying the weekly fee of five dollars. But the residents, strictly speaking, are most of them professional women whose work has brought them naturally to such a centre. One resident, for instance, is employed by the National as well as by the State Bureau of Labor in gathering statistics concerning the conditions and needs of the laboring classes. Known simply as a resident of Hull House she moves among the people in a social rather than in an official way; and she obtains the information she desires without prying or exercising any unusual tact. By reason of her intimate knowledge of the conditions of the laboring men and women of Chicago she took a prominent part in the recent agitation against the evils of sweating

shops, and in the consequent legislation to alleviate the condition of the thousands of victims of this evil. Another resident is regularly employed in district nursing by the Visiting Nurses' Association. A part of her time has been spent in overseeing the preparation of foods for the sick in the Hull House Diet Kitchen. The Hull House Kindergarten requires much of the time of one of the residents. Still another resident, though engaged professionally outside the ward, spends some of her evenings teaching the elements of English to poor Italian and Greek laboring men in a night school in the neighborhood.

The people of Chicago have shown increasing interest in Hull House. Miss Helen Culver has given the property rent free to the residents until 1900. In October, 1889, one woman came forward and pledged herself for fifty dollars regularly for that month. She proposed to interest nine others in the work, and took upon herself the duty of collecting the money in sums of five dollars. Thus the "Ten Account" was begun. Others adopted the same methods for other months, both men and women, so that now there are about thirty people,—a silent, unorganized association, if you please,—who represent the good will of Chicago toward Hull House. And there is a number of public-spirited men who, as the interest increases, silently lend a hand. To give the reader a fair conception of the work of Hull House and its allied interests I may say that more than ten thousand dollars passed last year through the hands of Miss Addams. Of this sum two thousand dollars was paid by the residents for the simple expenses of the household. The following table indicates certain features of the work which the limits of this article have obliged me to overlook:

Nursery, including Nursery Kindergarten,	. . .	\$2,000.00
Lighting, heating, care of buildings, etc.,	. . .	2,000.00
Art exhibits, painting, cooking classes, etc.,	. . .	880.00

Forward \$4,880 00

<i>Brought forward</i>	\$4,880.00
Summer School at Rockford, Ill.—Expenses paid by students	600.00
Relief Account,	600.00
Diet Kitchen,	500.00
Hull House Kindergarten,	500.00
Labor Bureau,	420.00
Gymnasium,	350.00
Entertainment Account,	150.00
	<hr/>
	\$8,000.00

I have said no word of the work of the Boys' and Girls' Clubs which meet weekly at Hull House, choosing rather to write of its characteristic efforts on behalf of men and women. Daily these people come to the House for a word of comfort in distress, or for actual assistance in one way or another. The laboring men know where to go for counsel. The factory women have already settled some troublesome questions with their employers through Hull House. The employers themselves, in need of men and women, frequently call upon the residents. After all is said one must remember that "the growing good of this world is dependent on unhistoric acts." And it is these "unhistoric acts" quite as much as any I might record which have cast their spell over so many lives in Chicago.

Hull House is not a charity. The assistance it offers to those in need is only incidental, and is always unobtrusively given. It is not a philanthropy. It seeks not to equalize conditions. It is rather an association of men and women from all ranks in life joined in high aims of work, study and amusement,—a pioneer, let us say, in the attempt to organize the social chaos of a great city. Mr. Lowell, himself the exponent of so much that is noble in our new-world life, has expressed the ideal of the movement with which Hull House is allied. If we cannot, he says, equalize fortunes and conditions, "we can yet, perhaps, do something to correct those methods and influences that lead to enormous inequalities, and to prevent their growing more enormous."

HARVARD COLLEGE.

The annual report of President Eliot of Harvard College is one of great interest, and will be eagerly read by all those who are so fortunate as to obtain a copy. The following extracts are made for our readers, with regret that no more space can be allotted to it :

“The teachers of the University are divisible into three classes—professors and associate professors, with whom the Corporation has entered into relations which are assumed to be permanent ; assistant professors and tutors who are appointed for terms of five years and three years respectively ; and lecturers, instructors, demonstrators, and assistants, whose connection with the University in these positions may naturally be, and ordinarily is, but temporary. The latter class generally hold appointments for only one year, although there are a few instructors who hold appointments without limit of time. In 1891-92 the amount paid to lecturers, instructors, demonstrators, and assistants taken together was \$92,450, while the amount paid to professors, associate professors, assistant professors, and tutors was \$278,300.

“The influences which bind its teachers to the University are chiefly these : The dignity and stability of the institution ; the perfect liberty of opinion ; the freedom in teaching—every teacher teaching as he thinks best, except as the more experienced teachers may persuade and inform the less experienced ; the great resources of the University in books and collections and the fact that any teacher can at any time cause books desirable in his department to be bought by the Library ; the separation of Cambridge from the luxurious society of great cities ; the propinquity to the resources of Boston for the gratification of aesthetic and musical tastes ; the healthfulness of Cambridge, and the facilities for bringing up children in a wholesome way, both physically and mentally ; and lastly, the consideration which learning and high character traditionally enjoy in eastern Massachusetts, independent of pecuniary condition.

“The Faculty of Arts and Sciences decided last June to undertake a new function in relation to secondary education. They decided to offer to make a thorough examination of the regular work of instruction in any secondary school of a grade to prepare boys for Harvard College or the Lawrence Scientific school—the examination to be conducted by experts in the several branches of instruction, and to be made the basis of a confidential report to the master or principal of the school examined. The Faculty therefore organized the Schools’ Examination Board of Harvard University, consisting of the President, four professors, and two principals of schools or academies, and directed this Board to select examiners, to make up the confidential report to be sent to the master of any school examined, and once a year to make a report of their own work to the Faculty. Since the University has no authoritative relation to any secondary school, these examinations are to be held only on invitation from the master or principal, and no public judgment is to be pronounced on any school examined. The University merely offers to do a friendly service to any suitable school which invites its help, by making a thorough inquiry into its organizations, methods, and condition, and then giving to the head of the school the best suggestions which experts can offer for its improvement.

“Since the school examined is to pay all the expenses of the examination, it is not probable that any inconvenient number of schools will apply to be examined. To make a complete examination of a good high school or academy, at least six examiners will ordinarily be required, and some of these examiners will need assistants. It is a thorough examination which is proposed, and not a brief inspection. In a few years the Faculty will have obtained through this Board an intimate knowledge of the condition of many good secondary schools in the United States, and the useful practice of co-operation between a University Faculty of Arts and Sciences and secondary schools will be established and diffused. This co-operation will benefit not only the small

proportion of pupils in high schools and academies who go to college, but also the large mass of the pupils in these institutions whose education stops with the secondary school.

"Heretofore the Faculty has exercised its influence on secondary schools solely by its requirements for admission. It is now to add to the influence of its examination papers a direct friendly intercourse with the schools themselves. It is to endeavor to affect directly the teaching within the schools by sympathetic intercourse with the teachers, friendly criticism, and frank discussion of common aids and needs. A few of the State universities have already interested themselves in the condition of secondary schools within their several States, or even beyond those limits; but the method of admission on certificate which has grown out of this relation between State universities and secondary schools is so full of perils both for the schools and the universities that Harvard University has no desire to enter on any such policy. A secondary school will have no motive for wishing to be examined by the Schools' Examination Board and for incurring the expense of such an examination, except the hope of obtaining valuable suggestions for improving its organization, methods or equipment. The Faculty proposes, however, to take an active part in what is now the most pressing educational work in the United States—namely, the work of reforming and uplifting secondary education. In the absence of governmental authority adequate to this work, the universities and colleges, the academies and high schools, or a selection of these institutions, must do it by intelligent and well directed co-operation—influence and persuasion taking the place of authority. As a preliminary measure, university teachers need to be better acquainted with the teachers of high schools and academies, and these two classes of teachers need to meet each other in conferences and associations where the needs of secondary education can be intelligently discussed. All such efforts will tend to raise the standard of instruction in secondary schools, to broaden the foundations of college instruction, and to im-

prove the intellectual and social condition of the directors of secondary education. Some of the conditions of the public school service in this country (particularly the uncertain tenure of office, and the fluctuating quality of school committees or boards) are unfortunately adverse to the creation of a class of highly educated and experienced school-masters; but custom, if not statute, makes some public school offices fairly permanent, the endowed schools of the country already offer a considerable number of desirable posts, and the large cities support many profitable private schools of great merit. The number of graduates of Harvard University who take up secondary school work is decidedly increasing, and it is much to be wished that this fortunate tendency should be encouraged by a parallel improvement in the conditions of employment in secondary schools and in the public estimation of their importance. In England the head-masters of important schools receive quite as much consideration as university professors, and more emoluments.

“The present scheme of requirements for admission to Harvard College was adopted in 1886. Among other important improvements it provided for the admission to College of boys who had never studied any Greek, and permitted advanced mathematics, and either chemistry or physics taught in the laboratory method to be offered as substitutes for Greek. Six years have now elapsed since this modification of the former requirements for admission was announced, and in that period 148 persons have entered Harvard College without Greek. Of this number thirty-five have already graduated. Of these thirty-five men, one obtained the degree *summa cum laude*, ten *magna cum laude*, six *cum laude*, and eighteen without distinction. Two of the thirty-five received the degree of Master of Arts simultaneously with that of Bachelor of Arts. This record is, as a whole, distinctly above the average. Of the 148 persons, 91 have as yet received no degree, but have made College records for

one or more years. The records of these 91 undergraduates, expressed in grades, are as follows :—

<i>A</i>	<i>A—B</i>	<i>B—A</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>B—C</i>	<i>C—B</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>C—D</i>	Total
1	5	9	14	8	10	34	10	91

There remain three persons with a record of less than one year, and nineteen who were admitted to College in the summer of 1892 and have as yet no records. Of these nineteen, six entered without conditions. Of the 91 men who have not graduated, but have made College records, a little more than half have records above *C*. The result is a very creditable one, and shows conclusively that the persons who have thus far entered College without Greek are abundantly able to profit by their College life, and to win a standing which is, on the average, above that of those who entered with Greek.

“In the year 1891-92 two-thirds of the persons who received promise of aid in advance proved themselves entirely worthy of it; and one-half of the whole number won aid for their second year on the competition of the whole Freshman year. A majority of those who failed to get aid in the second year in the open College competition came from remote schools or colleges at which they had not succeeded in obtaining a first-rate preparation; but some of them came from New England schools and academies of high reputation. In the year 1891-92 six well-known New England schools, which habitually send young men to Harvard College, recommended for aid persons whose Freshman records did not justify a continuance of aid to them. On the whole, the indications are that this mode of assignment can be made to yield satisfactory results, as the school and college authorities become familiar with it. It is to be hoped that it will succeed; for the first year of residence at Cambridge is often the hardest of all for a young man whose resources are small.

“The fact that all College instruction is open to students of the Scientific School makes the School a place of singular

privilege for students who are fitting themselves for the scientific professions. There is every reason to believe that this school will in a few years become one of the important departments of the University. Its requirements for admission are so moderate that it is accessible to the graduates of a large number of secondary schools which are not capable of preparing boys for admission to the college; it shares with all other Cambridge departments of the University the advantage of cheap board and lodging; and the value of its degree is heightened by the prestige of the whole University.

"New summer courses on the following subjects were offered in the summer of 1892:—American history, socialism and social problems, mathematics, horticulture, the history and art of teaching, elocution, and physiology and hygiene. These new courses had 90 students, while the courses which were repeated from the summer of 1891 had 410 students, against 351 in the preceding summer. This enumeration includes the courses given at the Medical School in Boston. The increased attendance on the summer courses amounted to 149 persons, and the total attendance to 500. The courses at the Medical School are of various length, but in general are decidedly shorter than the courses given at Cambridge.

"This body of summer instruction is a considerable one, the original idea of the summer courses having been much enlarged. The summer courses began at Harvard University in 1874 as a recognized part of University work; but they were then confined to scientific subjects, and field work or laboratory work was the most important element. They have now been extended to the modern languages, elocution, history, pedagogy, socialism and mathematics. From the beginning, the Corporation has been somewhat concerned lest the teachers in the summer courses should be injured by adding a serious labor during the summer to their regular work of teaching in term-time; but the experience of twenty years has shown that this apprehension was not well grounded. The teachers are, as a rule, the younger instructors and as-

sistants who have become familiar with the ground covered by the summer courses during their regular labors in term-time under the guidance of the older teachers in the same department. A few assistant professors take part in the work; but no professors—except, perhaps, by giving a few lectures during the progress of some course in which they are interested. So far as the students are concerned no injury to health is known to have happened to any person who has attended a summer course at Cambridge, either at the time or afterwards in consequence of his or her attendance. For young and vigorous persons a complete vacation of thirteen weeks is not necessary every year—perhaps is never necessary unless after serious illness. The summer courses in engineering, botany and geology all carry their students into the open air, and are unquestionably advantageous as far as health is concerned. For persons who live in the western states, Cambridge is ordinarily an agreeable place in which to pass six weeks of the summer. At any rate, the resort to the summer courses of the University increases at a rapid rate; and inasmuch as almost all the persons who attend them are adults, and a large proportion teachers, it is fair to assume that they understand their own interests and objects. There are no beneficiary aids for the summer students. Every student pays a tuition-fee and his expenses."

Connected with the report of President Eliot are the reports of the Deans of the Lawrence Scientific School, Graduate School, Divinity School, Law School, Medical School, Dental School, Veterinary School, Bussey Institution, Curator of Herbarium, Directors of Botanic Garden, Arnold Arboretum, Chemical Laboratories, Observatory and Museums.

It is perhaps with a little surprise that a person unfamiliar with Cambridge reads the long list of schools and departments connected with Harvard College. It is a world by itself, and one cannot read these reports without feeling what grand opportunities are open on every side to the student.

THE NORTH END UNION.

Among the various working plans which strive to bring together people who have been separated in the horrible isolation of large towns, no one has been more practical than that of the North End Union. The directors of the Union have just now published a statement of their general plan, which covers the ground so well that we are glad to reprint it for the information of people in other cities. We add to it their little spring circular with regard to window-gardening, which is eminently practical :

The object of the North End Union, as stated at the outset, was to "make a social home for young men, stimulate mental activity, promote good citizenship, and lend a hand wherever needed." How this was best to be done was the problem. Situated in the midst of a population, many of whom are foreign born, composed almost entirely of Hebrews and Catholics, it was clear that the work should be absolutely unsectarian. Recognizing that self-respect and independence are endangered by the giving of something for nothing, a small fee for the privileges of the Union was required. The accommodations of the building were such as to seriously limit the work which the Union had in mind. The large hall and gymnasium were adequate for their purposes, but the one small room had to be used as a reception room, game room, reading room and office, to the confusion of each purpose. The gymnasium gave accommodation to various gymnastic and other classes, and the large hall to weekly entertainments, girls' clubs, sewing classes, kitchen garden, etc. The Children's House, which became a part of the Union in March, has drawn together a large number of children by its various classes for sewing, mending, dressmaking, manual training and singing, and its play room for the little ones.

Work of this kind, as those who have been longest engaged in it well know, is always more or less experimental ; it is necessary to study the problems continually in connection with the work itself, and to add or subtract as practical

experience may determine. The observation and experience of the past year in the work of the Union and Children's House have emphasized to the minds of all concerned how large and important the needs are which the Union may be made to meet. The North End is a tenement house district, swarming with children. These children are to be the fathers and mothers and the citizens of the Boston of tomorrow. It is not only important, it is absolutely necessary, that such opportunities shall be provided for them as shall counteract the adverse influences of their environment and the frequent hard conditions of poverty. This may be the work of a Union large enough to comprehend children, young people, and men and women, providing for each that which each most needs, in a way so definite that, while the work for each shall be distinct, each step shall so overlap the next that there may be one continuous progress from childhood to age. The ideal Union should develop the physical, social, educational, industrial, and moral sides of life, and lend a helping hand wherever it can serve human needs.

The physical side may be provided for by gymnasium, bowling alleys, billiard and pool tables. The Union may promote outdoor sports and excursions to the country or the shore; it may own its "abandoned farm," or a dozen acres on the shore of some lake, with a log cabin fitted up with the simplest accommodations, together with a few boats which shall be at the disposal for two weeks in summer of different camping clubs of boys who shall have earned a right to its privileges by the payment of a small sum per month during the year.

The social side of a work like that undertaken by the Union is of signal importance. A tenement of two or three rooms which accommodates the whole round of cooking, washing, eating and sleeping, and often provides for workshop, offers but a little of that which makes home life cheerful and attractive. It is not to be wondered at that members of such households demand something else. The Union should make itself the centre of a full and attractive social

life; its parlors should be bright with light and pictures, with cozy nooks and inviting chairs; it should have its reading room and library, its game room, a smoking room for the men, and a general reception room where all may exchange greetings. Books and papers should be scattered about upon its tables, that they may become familiar by their simple presence and tempt visitors to fill up an idle moment by reading.

We would urge in this connection the importance of making the Union the centre of a regular "social settlement" of the same general character as the social settlements which are accomplishing so much good in London, in New York, in Chicago, and in Boston itself. There should surely be at all times in Boston a half dozen young men willing and anxious to make their temporary home here, to study the social problems presented in the surrounding streets, and to take an active part in the Union's educational and philanthropic work. We commend this matter to the earnest consideration of young men in the theological and other schools of Boston and the neighborhood, as well as to those already engaged in regular vocations in the city.

The Union should aim at the education of the people whom it reaches. It should stimulate every existing inclination to mental improvement. It should organize classes in such subjects as from time to time seem best—American history, English literature, civil government, etc.; it should maintain a debating club; it should have singing classes and arrange concerts; it should encourage the love of the beautiful by occasional art exhibitions and otherwise; it should in every way create an atmosphere which should awaken in every member of the Union aspirations for better things.

We have to consider carefully also the industrial side. It should never be forgotten that the paramount, perennial, pressing question with the great majority of those reached by an institution like the North End Union is how to get the necessities of life. If the Union can help by ever so little to solve this problem it will have earned its right to be. The

Union can encourage habits of thrift and economy by helping its people to save against a day of need, by making it possible for them to buy coal and other necessities of life at a minimum profit; but this is only scratching the surface—the root lies deeper. At an early age boys and girls here are pushed out into the world to begin the struggle for a living. The city has done what it could to give them a mental outfit, but many are obliged to leave school long before the completion of the grammar school course and go to work. Wages depend upon how well skilled the hands are, and the eyes. With hands and eyes untrained in any definite way to any definite end, these boys and girls drift into occupations which are but make-shifts, with nothing to determine the occupation for which they are best fitted, or to give chance for preference. The result is restlessness and a shifting from one thing to another; and the product in the end is, too often, a loafer. Every boy and girl may be so taught that the knowledge gained may be a stepping-stone to future occupations. A boy should not be driven into an occupation like a peg into a hole. There should be opportunity for choice. Interest in some direction should be developed, making possible intelligent preference and choice. Let the Union provide workshops where boys and girls may learn the fundamental principles of various trades, taught not merely with reference to mental discipline, but as looking directly towards a vocation and a means of living. Manual training is recognized as having a distinctive educational value, and on that account is being introduced into our schools; it does not aim to go beyond that. It may not now be within the province of the public schools to go farther; but for those who have developed a taste for technical education in the schools, for those who are earnestly seeking more congenial occupations and occupations in which they can be more efficient, for all who for any reason desire it, such provision should be made to fit themselves better for trades which are remunerative and for which they are adapted. Trade schools, in the full sense, are not here urged, as these may doubtless

be conducted better independently; but the fundamental principles which underlie trades can be taught with direct reference to their application. Free-hand and mechanical drawing enables the mind to grasp conceptions of form and proportion. These conceptions wrought out in wood become skillful carpentry; in iron, forge and machine work; in fabrics, millinery and dressmaking; and with colors, sign painting and fresco work.

The value of this individual work in connection with an effort like that of the North End Union is doubly great, because it appeals to the young. The active minds of young people demand occupation of some kind. If good occupation is not provided diversions of some sort will surely be created—diversions which too often result disastrously. Let the boys and girls be put upon their feet by the giving of some practical knowledge in a congenial occupation which shall be a constant incentive to better effort, inciting hopes for a better life and a better living, and their own desires, and the impetus given them will then carry them past a hundred shallows and quicksands which are else so threatening.

WINDOW GARDENING.

The cultivation of flowers has a charm for young and old alike. While the opportunities to have gardens in a great city are denied, the opportunities for growing plants are by no means wanting, even in the most thickly settled parts of the city. Wherever there is sunshine and a window-sill to hold a pot or box, there excellent results may be attained. Best results, of course, can only come from knowing what to do and what not to do. It is often said, "I have no luck in growing plants,"—that they will grow for one and not for another. It is not "luck," but knowledge, which may be obtained by observation and experience. The following simple directions will help the beginner, and it is hoped encourage many to make their first attempt.

The successful growing of house plants depends no less upon care and treatment than upon the adaptability of the

plants selected. It is best at the outset to select only such plants as are of sturdy constitution; the less hardy ones may be tried later on, when experience will help care for them. The following plants, taken in order named, are among the hardiest, and if given reasonable care will bloom well: geraniums, fuchsias, ivies, carnations, petunias, and verbenas.

SOIL.

Unless good soil is used satisfactory results cannot be obtained. Any good garden loam, in which about one-third thoroughly rotted manure and a small quantity of sand have been well mixed, will answer. Before planting it in pots or boxes, remove all sticks and lumps of earth, and work it over to make it as light as possible. Ammoniated Plant Food, made by the Bowker Fertilizer Company, is highly recommended as a dressing for plants.

POTS AND BOXES.

Although the common unglazed pots with saucers are the best for growing plants, they are not necessary. Boxes of various sizes, about six inches deep, not so large that they cannot be easily handled, serve very well. Bear in mind, that whatever is used *thorough drainage is absolutely necessary*. This may be secured by making holes in the bottom of the box, and putting in a few small stones or lumps of coal around the holes to prevent the soil from stopping them up.

SEEDS.

Nasturtiums, zinnias, asters, petunias, calendulas, sweet peas, coreopsis, candytuft, alyssum, Chinese pinks, poppies, portulacas, scabiosas, and others may be grown from seed, and it will be found that the interest in plants so grown will be much greater than comes from having plants already potted. Cover the seed very lightly with soil, not more than the depth of the seed itself.

[By special arrangement with florists, the North End Union is enabled to sell seeds of these plants at two cents a paper.]

CARE.

Perhaps more plants are injured by too frequent waterings than in any other way. The simple rule, if closely followed, will prove a safe one: *Never apply water till the surface is dry, then put on only enough to moisten the soil thoroughly.* Sometimes plants may need watering every day, while on the other hand a week may go by without the surface becoming dry. Careful attention is all that is required.

The leaves of the plants are their lungs, and it is necessary that the pores of the leaves be kept open if the plants are to remain in a healthy condition. To accomplish this the leaves should be washed every two or three days. A small rubber atomizer is the best thing for the purpose, though they may be showered with a water pot, or even a whisk broom, if nothing else is convenient.

Many who would be glad to have growing plants cannot do so because of the difficulty and expense of getting good soil. The North End Union, 20 Parmenter Street, has arranged to have soil, also flower pots, which it will sell in limited quantities at bare cost.

Loam per peck,	.	.	.	.	.	3 cents.
Loam per bushel,	.	.	.	.	.	11 cents.
4 inch pots, filled with loam,	.	.	.	.	.	2 cents.
6 " " "	.	.	.	.	.	4 cents.
7 " " "	.	.	.	.	.	6 cents.

Saucers for the 6 and 7 inch pots, 2 cents extra.

Apply at the Union, 20 Parmenter Street, between four and five o'clock, p. m.

HARTFORD WIDOWS' SOCIETY.

The records of the Widows' Society of Hartford, Conn., which date from the year 1825, have never been given to the public until within the last year. In the first written report of the Society in 1825, the chief object which the founders had in view is given in the following words :

"A portion of the community who strongly interest the feelings of the benevolent are destitute widows, and the wish has often been expressed that something permanent might be done for their relief, particularly in assisting them in the indispensable expense of house rent. It is proposed that those persons who are desirous of aiding them in this way give their names, with the yearly sum they are willing thus to appropriate. The money raised shall be placed in the hands of two managers, whose business it shall be to seek out and relieve (in the way above specified) those widows who have been reduced to want by misfortune or disease."

Twenty-six widows were assisted during the first year, and from the beginning the help has been bestowed upon persons not known to the professional philanthropist.

In 1854 the secretary wrote, "Our American women have the first claim upon us." During twenty-two years but two foreign names were upon the list of beneficiaries. The average number assisted in those years was between thirty and forty. One year there were sixty-eight, but even that year only \$302 was expended. Often times a small amount gave the needed relief and perhaps bridged over a season of great anxiety.

The methods employed by the Widows' Society have been from the beginning: first, a personal visitation on the part of the managers, or distributors; secondly, employment was to be procured for all those able to work; thirdly, the needed instruction was to be given in order to prepare beneficiaries for various kinds of work. It was a constant aim to secure a suitable housing for the poor. Upon these same lines charitable work is yet progressing, after the experience of more than half a century.

This early effort in Hartford, one of the three earliest charitable societies, has been the means of doing some of the best work under other names which has been done in that city. The Hartford City Mission, so well known to all philanthropists by its excellent and well-organized work, was first suggested by the Widows' Society, and the ques-

tion of the better housing of the poor, which agitates us to-day, was one of the earliest questions brought before that Society.

In 1864, through the liberality of Mr. Lawson C. Ives, two large brick houses were built to accommodate widows, and to-day in the Widows' Home there are twenty-four women living comfortably. The rooms which they occupy rent for the nominal sum of from \$8 to \$20 a year. These two houses, with a similar one built for the same purpose by the late Mr. Geo. Beach, are under the control of three churches of the city.

Notwithstanding these homes, there was another class of widows—a class requiring further aid in their old age, for whom no provision had yet been made. This time the Widows' Society appealed for an Old People's Home, and there is now such an institution in answer to their appeal in the city of Hartford.

The president has observed in many of the instances where help has been rendered a spirit of great self-respect on the part of the beneficiaries. The managers have ever striven to give relief where relief was really needed and where there was an earnest desire upon the part of the recipients to aid themselves all that they possibly could. In every large city such a class of persons exists, but it requires wisdom, tact and delicacy to approach them. They are the people, first of all, who should be assisted. There is little danger of pauperization and there is great probability that a little money will go much farther with them than with people who do not feel so keenly the help offered.

Then, again, length of years is no proper test of length of life. A man's life is to be measured by what he does in it and what he feels in it. The more useful work the man does and the more he thinks and feels, the more he really lives. The idle, useless man, no matter to what extent his life may be prolonged, merely vegetates.

*

AN AVERAGE DAY'S WORK.

FROM THE RECORDS OF THE NURSE.

At eight A. M. I made my first call on Hampden Street upon a nice woman with a large family of children. She was obliged to have an operation performed, and as there was no room for her at the Hospital it was done at her own home. This morning I found her very miserable; she had passed a poor night. Did her dressing, and made her as comfortable as I could; then washed, dressed and fed the baby so he would not annoy her. I made a call on Harrison Avenue; a patient just recovering from pneumonia; took his temperature, pulse and respiration; also instructed his wife about nourishment. Another patient living in the same house has had a very severe pain in his side; the doctor told them to paint it *once* with Iodine; *instead* they used *all* they got at the drug store, and the result was a very large blister, which I find has improved since yesterday; dressed this and then went to the Dispensary on Roxbury Street for an hour, where I assisted the doctor and wrote my report for the day before. At eleven o'clock I attended my next patient on King Street; she was convalescing, and as there was no one to help her I made her bed, prepared her a warm drink, and left her in very good spirits. To see the Connor children on Smith Street was my next destination; found the younger one convalescing from pneumonia, but with an abscess on his neck; dressed his neck and made his bed; then bathed the little sister who had Scarlet Rash, and made her comfortable. I then went to lunch. After luncheon I made a call on Cottage Place upon an old woman with heart disease; could do nothing but cheer her a little as her daughter had made her very comfortable. I then called on Mindora Street upon a man with rheumatism in both feet; I bandaged these, also dressed his little girl's hand, who has had a severe burn. In the same house I attended baby McFaddon who has a sore ear, which has to be syringed every day. I

[Extract from the Annual Report of the Society for the Relief of the Sick Poor of Roxbury, Mass.]

have always found it difficult to do, as the child kicks and screams all the time; to-day being the first time he was quiet and let it be properly done. From there I went to a patient on Tremont Court who had heart disease; this is an old case; at times she is up and about, and then she will be sick in bed for a few days; just now she is not as well; I took her a diet ticket and did the best I could to cheer her. My last call was upon Mrs. Goodwin on Washington Street, who had a very severe cold, and as she was very careless the doctor was afraid it would develop into pneumonia; I bathed her, made her bed, then prepared something for her to eat and left her very comfortable and exceedingly grateful.

ELLA A. MYERS,

Nurse.

STUDENTS' EXPENSES.

Six years ago Prof. Palmer of Harvard College stated that a quarter part of the members of a certain class had expended less than \$650 a year, and several of them but \$450.

At the present time there are various societies which assist in diminishing the expense of the student. The Foxcroft Club furnishes meals at the very lowest prices; some of the students paying as little as two dollars a week for their board. The Twenty-one Club is another active force, and the Loan Furniture Association yet another. An Employment Bureau is established at the University Office, and an opportunity is given needy students to earn money. Since Prof. Palmer gave his figures in 1887 expenses have been reduced in board, lodging and furniture. Better opportunities to earn money have been furnished the student, both by work and by obtaining aid from the college by high scholarship.

The secretary of the class of 1891 says that the smallest amount spent by a student in any one year was between \$300 and \$400, while the largest was \$4,200.

The secretary, Mr. Bolles, wishing to find out as nearly as possible the necessary expenditures requested forty men to

furnish him with statements. They were men who were known to be "poor, earnest, scholarly, eager to secure remunerative work, and likely to be methodical in money matters." He says: "As a rule the letters, like their writers, have a cheerful tone, showing that the student who lives economically is not necessarily dreary."

Among these letters, which seem to us valuable, particularly to those persons of small means who would be glad that their boys should have the advantages of Harvard College, we have selected two, the second of which the secretary characterizes as a "simple, straightforward statement of one of the most remarkable student histories of this generation of Harvard men." He adds: "The man who lived that life did far more than merely helping himself."

Cambridge, Nov. 4, 1892.

MY DEAR MR. BOLLES:—

I am very glad to comply with your request by sending you a table of my average *necessary* expenses for four years:

Tuition	\$150 00
Room, fuel, light	75 00
Board	190 00
Books	20 00
Sundries	30 00

\$465 00

Although the annual expenses are a trifle higher at Harvard than at some American colleges, I regard the extraordinarily greater chances for making money here as more than an offset. Our scholarships average much more; there is better opportunity to get private tutoring, newspaper work, etc., and the interest taken by the University officers in needy and deserving students is decidedly warm. This last is a point I would put special emphasis on.

If there is anything more I can tell you I should be glad to do so. I am,

Very truly yours,

— — —

December 21, 1892.

DEAR MR. BOLLES:—

I entered Harvard College with so poor a record that I received the maximum number of conditions. Professor Briggs afterwards told me that I passed so poor an examination in nearly everything that I was admitted because I came from a new school and was recommended as a faithful student. I had to take extra work, and I found the regular course was quite sufficient.

I had to rely *wholly* on myself to meet the expenses of my course in what many told me was the "rich man's college."

I was \$116 in debt. When I left Boston for Cambridge I had forty-four (0.44) cents, so that my actual debt was \$115.56. I was a stranger in Cambridge. The first day I spent all but nine cents. I had one great help in this year—\$250 from the Price Greenleaf Aid had been awarded me. This, however, I could not draw till Christmas. In order to buy books to begin my work, I pawned my watch and a few other things, receiving for the same \$15.50.

During my Freshman year my receipts were:

RECEIPTS.	EXPENDITURES.
Price Greenleaf Aid . \$250 00	Tuition \$150 00
Pawned watch, etc. . . 15 50	Room (heated and furnished) 50 00
Type writing 71 40	Lighting above 5 10
Books sold 7 50	Books 21 21
Tutoring 1 60	Clothes 15 00
—	Board 140 00
\$346 00	
	\$381 31

This includes only necessary expenses. In addition I spent \$58.90, making my debt for the year \$94.21. Part of this year I was very poor. My washing I did myself. About mid-year I was so short of money that for nearly two months I ate but one or two meals a day. This was the

hardest period of my course, but rather incited than discouraged me.

During the summer I worked as porter in a summer hotel. I strained myself quite badly, but I cleared \$118. I entered my Sophomore year \$91.77 in debt.

During my Sophomore year my receipts were :

RECEIPTS.	EXPENDITURES.
Loan Fund . . . \$75 00	Tuition \$150 00
Beneficiary funds . . 80 00	Room, heating and lighting 45 50
Work for Prof. James* 4 50	Board at Foxcroft. . †93 43
Publishing notes . . 25 50	Clothes and washing . 29 20
Waiting on table . . 38 33	Furniture 24 25
Type writing . . . 70 00	Books 19 16
Outside jobs, as posting bills, copying, etc. . 52 15	
	<hr/>
	\$361 54
<hr/>	
\$345 48	

My expenses this year where higher than necessary. I bought many books I did not need. I might have saved \$20 by hiring my furniture from the Loan Furniture Association.

In addition to the necessary expense I spent \$151.60 on athletics, theatre, unnecessary books, subscription to College sports, charity, and other interests. So my total expense was \$513.14. During the summer I earned above my expenses (as clerk in a summer hotel) \$158.04. Thus during my Sophomore year I increased my debt \$9.62.

I entered my Junior year \$101.31 in debt. During my Junior year my receipts were :

RECEIPTS.	EXPENDITURES.
Scholarship . . . \$150 00	Tuition \$150 00
Loan fund 75 00	Room, etc. . . . 49 50
	<hr/>
<i>Forward</i> . . \$225 00	<i>Forward</i> . . \$199 50

* My work for Professor James was peculiar. It was taking sheep's brains from skulls for experiments in psychology.

† I was away from College five weeks.

<i>Carried Forward</i> , \$225 00	<i>Carried Forward</i> , \$199 00
Beneficiary fund 15 00	Board at Foxcroft . . 119 53
Odd Jobs 7 13	Clothes and washing . . 51 73
Publishing placards . . 18 10	Books 24 38
Advertising scheme . . 106 05	
Tutoring 267 50	\$395 14
Type writing 32 19	
Prof. James's work . . . 2 45	
Waiting on table . . . 16 11	

\$689 53

During the year I bought a type-writer for which I paid \$100. I also contributed toward the expense of some other fellows poorer than I, \$100. For incidentals I spent \$85.60. Then my actual expenditure this year was \$680.74. During the summer I clerked and earned above my expenses \$100.50. I bought a good many books and so saved less than previously.

I entered my Senior year out of debt and with \$7.90 on hand. This year my receipts were :

RECEIPTS.	EXPENDITURES.
Loan fund \$75 00	Tuition - \$150 00
Beneficiary fund . . . 20 00	Room, etc. - 56 40
Odd jobs 18 99	Board 160 00
Copying 24 50	Clothes and washing . . 43 32
Tutoring 439 90	Books 21 08
Advertising scheme . . 72 39	Furniture 32 00
Teaching school* . . . 14 00	
Publishing notes . . . 24 00	\$462 50
Type writing 107 43	
Publishing books . . . 225 00	

\$1021 21

I spread Class-Day at an expense of \$100. I gave \$150 towards other students' expenses. I hired a piano during the year, and added many books to my library, so that my "in-

* My teaching school was substituting in an East Cambridge school for a friend.

cidentals" amounted to \$149.60, making my expenses for the year \$612.40. Thus I saved during the year \$258.80, and graduated from College with \$266.70. I owed the College \$225 from Loan Fund, so that I was more than out of debt, or \$41.70 ahead.

I had bought a type-writer; increased my library by over 300 volumes; bought many useful articles; taken part in many branches of College life and work—social, moral, athletic, literary and religious. I played on one Varsity team, and on my class team in another sport. I found many openings for work for other fellows. Had I been able to do all I found to do I should have made a good salary. I only tried to earn enough "to get through."

I graduated with my class *cum laude* and with courses to spare; also got Honorable Mention in one study. My health when I entered was very poor. I left College strong in body, better than at any time for ten years. To sum up my four years expenses:

Freshman year	.	.	.	.	.	\$381	31
Sophomore year	361	54
Junior year	395	14
Senior year	462	80

For course	\$1600	79
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My Sophomore year is a fair estimate of what is actually necessary. I think if any fellow wished he could save \$20 on furniture and \$10 on books. Moreover, I paid for my room more than was necessary. *I have no hesitation in saying that an economical student, taking advantage of the College helps (Library, Loan Furniture Association, Foxcroft Club, and the Young Men's Christian Association aid in receiving cheap and desirable rooms), can get through honorably and happily for \$300 a year.*

I cannot close without saying that my whole course was made easier by the friendly words of advice and encouragement from President Eliot, Professors Briggs, James, Smith, Peabody, Kittredge and Palmer, and not the least from yourself.

Sincerely yours,

— — —

HAMPTON INSTITUTE.

In a book entitled "Twenty-two Years of Hampton," there is a chapter by Miss Ludlow giving a summing up of the graduates' record. Every effort has been made to make the statements as correct as possible. Many of the graduates have kept up a close friendship with the teachers of the Institute; many others have strayed away and it is difficult to keep track of them.

Seven hundred and twenty-three graduates have received diplomas in the twenty-two years. Of these two hundred and eighty were young women, and four hundred and forty-three young men. No Indians graduated until 1882, since then twenty-five have finished the course—eight young women and seventeen young men.

A large percentage of the graduates have been teachers, and sixteen out of the twenty-five Indian graduates have taught.

The young men, besides teaching, have become ministers, lawyers, physicians, missionaries, mechanics and farmers. Some have gone into business for themselves, and some are in government employ. Sixteen have become book-keepers and clerks, and four are music teachers.

Of the young women there is a physician, a missionary, trained nurses, dressmakers, a printer, musicians, house-keepers, some who are in business for themselves, and some who have gone out to service.

In this magazine we always like to know that the "Ten Times One Method" is the successful one. And now we find that these graduates have taught 129,475 children. If these children would only multiply the educated blacks in the same way, it would not be long before we should find the colored people raised from the position which they now occupy. We find that 2,187 of the pupils of the graduates have really become teachers. Some of the colored graduates have gone North to attend colleges and law schools.

The report says that only 250 of the graduates have married, but 90 of that number have married Hampton students.

It has been very thoroughly shown that Negroes can own property and have a pride in it. We find that among the 723 graduates there is owned \$167,855 worth of property, the largest amount being \$15,000 reported by a young man, and rumor says that since the report was made his real estate has quadrupled in market value. A young woman owns \$5,000.

The record of the Indian graduates is good. In all, there are seventeen teachers; there are farmers, a logger, clerks, a printer, an engineer, surveyors, two occupying government positions, and a young woman is physician at the Omaha Agency. One is in a law school, and one has been admitted to the Nebraska bar.

Besides the records of graduates, reports are given of 25 (colored) undergraduates who have done good work since leaving, though, for one reason and another (not discreditable), they did not finish their course here. These are specimens to which many more might be added. It is difficult to estimate the number. Probably as many undergraduates teach as graduates; and many more who do not teach are living useful lives, exerting influence for good among their people.

As a matter of fact—certainly a very encouraging one—the effect of their school life is often surprisingly evident even in those, of both races, who have been but a short time in its atmosphere, and some of whom may have been thought hopelessly dull or unsusceptible to its influences.

“Some light on the frequent question as to the comparative mental endowment of black and ‘colored’ in the Negro race, is perhaps to be gathered from the unforseen and rather striking result of an investigation of the distribution of the highest class honors since 1874, when they were first awarded.

“At Hampton salutatory and valedictory are equal honors.

Leaving out the Indian salutatorian of '86 and valedictorian of '89 and one year when the programme was made up of graduates of previous years, we find that of the fifteen colored girl salutatorians four were black, three dark, seven light, and one 'apparently white.' Of the fifteen young men valedictorians, seven were black, and one dark, and seven were light. In other words : of young women, seven were dark and eight light ; of young men, eight were dark and seven light ; which divides the honors as nearly equally as possible—fifteen to the dark and fifteen to the light. After the first decade of the school, investigation was made, with a precisely similar result."

It is good to know that the standard of health steadily increases. Though there are greater numbers of students than formerly, the conditions are more healthful.

Dr. Waldron, the resident physician, states that the stamina of the colored race, as represented at the school, has improved. Nervous weakness and instability are being conquered. "Scrofula and consumption are not as frequently met among the students as ten years ago." Many come now from homes where good food and healthful living are to be found.

Certainly, the report of the work of these years is most encouraging. We have all known that it was good and have approved highly of it ; but when figures such as this book can show confront the reader they are startling. It means an improvement that is wonderful. All honor is due the founders and faithful teachers, who have resolved that with God's help this work should be done, and have set themselves resolutely to do it. They have been armed for the war, and every year sees the victory coming nearer.

MIRACLES OF TO-DAY.

The readers of *LEND A HAND* are familiar with the life of that wonderful child, Helen Keller, who, deprived of sight, hearing, and the power of speech, has shown the world the miracle of light from darkness. She is now thirteen years

of age. By a severe illness, she was deprived of sight and hearing when in her second year, and she was nearly seven years old before there was any attempt made to teach her. In four months she mastered four hundred and fifty common words, exceeding what Laura Bridgman gained in two years. She has progressed wonderfully, and now reads, writes, and converses with ease. The whole story is like one of the fairy stories of our childhood.

Just a year ago she conceived the idea of having a tea to aid the Kindergarten for the Blind. It was her own plan. Naturally, friends came to her assistance, for she is a loving, winsome child and has made a host of friends, and her proposal met with warm approbation. She begged a kind lady to lend a beautiful house, and tickets were sold at one dollar each. The "tea" proved a delightful festival, with the most brilliant success,—not only in attendance, but socially and financially as well. The wonderful child had made many friends among public and literary people, and her first work was to visit them and interest them in her plan. Some of her letters to them were most touching in her pleadings for the little blind children. When the account of the receipts of the "tea" was closed it was found that the net proceeds amounted to \$1,135.

One of the children in whom Helen is most interested is little Willie Robin—a little girl from Texas, now eight years old. When six years of age she knew but two signs, one for something to eat, the other for something to drink. Another child was Tommy Stringer, who would be in the Pennsylvania Almshouse to-day were he not in the Perkins Institute. He came to the Institute more like a little animal than anything else, but now is a bright, promising child. A year ago, when arrangements were made for the annual reception at the Institute, Helen wrote to many of her kind friends to interest them in Tommy. To Dr. Hale, Helen's oldest friend outside the Institute, she went herself and begged him to come and plead the cause of her little protégé. This he was glad to do. No sooner had he ceased speaking than Helen

stepped forward and asked to say a few words. Great was the surprise of her friends, but she spoke with fluency and fervor, as if moved by the Holy Spirit:

"My dear friends, I cannot speak very well, but I want to say something about Tommy. You have been very kind, but I would like to have you continue kind. Your kindness will be like the rain in April: it will make the little plantlets in the kindergarten grow. Oh, how beautiful it will be when Tommy's mind is bright and clear from the clouds that hide it now! Life is sweet and beautiful when we have the wonderful key of language to unlock all its beautiful secrets. So help us to educate Tommy and give him this key. Help us to bring gladness into his life and into the lives of other little blind children."

The audience was deeply touched by Helen's words, and various sums of money were placed in her hands as a substantial proof of the interest awakened.

Contributions to the fund for Tommy's education continued to come in for several weeks after the reception.

"Helen is a child of strong affections and catholic sympathies. She is a born philanthropist. Her noblest characteristics are devotion to others and forgetfulness and sacrifice of self. She delights in giving help and carrying relief to the suffering. She is ever ready to deny herself the comforts of life in order to be able to assuage and solace the woes of her little brothers and sisters in misfortune. She has received from above the gift of mercy, and her ministrations are sanctified by the sacrament of love. Her talents are always at the service of the blind, the deaf, the poor, and the down-trodden. When a genius like hers consecrates itself to the cause of afflicted humanity it becomes 'the glory of the earth and the perfume of heaven.'"

Tommy entered the Kindergarten when he was less than five years old, and the disease which had deprived him of sight and hearing had prolonged his season of babyhood. He could walk a little, but had so little confidence that when the nurse dropped his hand he would begin to creep.

The first indication of intelligence was seen one morning when he was left sitting in the porch with a basket of pebbles to play with. He amused himself by dropping them through the cracks of the floor, and he quickly noticed when one was only a little too large to slip down between the boards. As he took them from the basket, without pausing to try them, he instantly threw away the larger ones and dropped the small ones into the cracks. From that time slowly he began to improve. He had the most careful teaching, and when he had been a year at the Kindergarten he had learned twenty-five words which he could spell, including some short sentences. Then he gained confidence, and his improvement was much more marked. In less than six months his vocabulary was one hundred and fifty words. He is a gentle affectionate child, full of fun and mischief. Here is what a new teacher writes of him :

MAY 6.—For the first few days I was watching Tom and did not use my authority. He thought it was very nice and took advantage by spelling *milk m-i-k*. An hour passed while we were working for the letter *l*. At supper Tom spelled the word quickly, putting special emphasis on the letter *l*, then laughing.

MAY 12.—To-night Tom went up to his room immediately after supper and, quickly undressing, went to bed. This was to avoid spelling the names of his clothes, which I have taught him and have had him spell, morning and evening, as he puts on or takes off the garments.

His teacher tried to give him an idea of verbal speech by allowing him to watch the vibrations of her throat while she slowly said *ah*, prolonging the sound. This seemed to excite his attention and he tried to imitate it. By repeated efforts he has learned to articulate *mamma* quite clearly.

The little fellow started at great disadvantage, but he has made an excellent beginning and endeared himself to all. Willie Robin is especially fond of him, and understands that he is like herself—deaf and dumb as well as blind. She loves dearly to teach him and often goes to find him during the play hours.

Willie has been there longer than Tommy and gives promise of a fine, mental development. She is a pretty child, bright and joyous in her disposition.

"She is an industrious little worker, yet she often dislikes to undertake new things, and her unwillingness to try sometimes amounts to stubbornness. When, however, she finds that there is no alternative, she will apply herself to the task and accomplish a great deal in a very short time. She likes to perform various household duties. She makes her bed neatly, dusts the room, folds and puts away her clothes in an orderly manner, and is pleased when she is allowed to wipe dishes. Her kindergarten work is very well done; all her handiwork, indeed, gives evidence of the deftness of her fingers. At Christmas-tide she became so much interested in the gifts she was preparing, that she wanted to sew all the time. Her first Christmas-tide was that of 1891, for, until then, she had had no knowledge of the season. Her teacher explained to her something of its significance and talked with her about Santa Claus. Willie caught the spirit of the occasion and her eager little fingers were ambitious to express, in substantial form, the 'good will to men' to which her heart had just awakened. On Christmas eve she hung her stocking with the other children, and in the morning she was as eager as they to examine its contents and as happy in the result. But her greatest delight was in the Christmas tree. The gifts which it brought her gave her great pleasure, and she hugged them tightly in her arms lest one should slip, unperceived, from her grasp.

"Willie has a nice sense of neatness and order and is disturbed when articles are misplaced or out of repair. She went to her teacher one afternoon saying, "Martha is a bad girl because she broke"—Here she paused, at a loss for the right word, so she went downstairs and produced a towel the loop of which was broken. Miss Thayer took this opportunity to teach her the word *loop*. Little Willie then took the towel to Martha and said to her 'Sew!—bad!' But her teacher told Willie that she was mistaken, that it was not

Martha who had done the mischief, and asked her what she would say to the little girl whom she had wrongly accused. 'Excuse me, Martha,' said Willie, kissing her schoolmate. Still she was not satisfied to leave the towel. She uttered a little cry and said 'Sew—Miss Vose'; and only when her teacher told her that she might put it upon the table, where Miss Vose would see it, was she content."

In September, 1891, Willie took her first lesson in reading, and in seven weeks she read the first one of Stories for Little Readers.

"She has an instinctive desire for oral speech, and this her teacher has encouraged and aided until Willie can now articulate from seventy-five to one hundred words. These contain nearly all the sounds of the English language. Some of them are words of more than one syllable, as *water, towel, thimble, flower, window*. She has also learned to combine words so as to express some of her wishes or ideas orally. She will say, for example, *Come with me. Miss Vose is here. Where is Tom? I have two thumbs. Miss Markham has a muff. I wash my face in warm water.*

"She is very happy in learning articulation, and when she finds that she can call some one by name and that her call will bring the person to her, she is delighted. The pitch of her voice is so natural and its tone is so pleasant that it seems probable she will learn to talk in a manner agreeable to those around her."

Her progress has indeed been marvellous. "Late in December, 1890, she entered the Kindergarten, a healthy, vigorous child of six and a half years, with a pretty, though sad face, and a rude and repellent manner. She manifested no love for anyone, but violently repulsed those who tried to caress her. By crossing her arms upon her breast, and other rude signs she could express a few of her immediate physical needs, but nothing more. The world was quite shut out from her knowledge, and she had no means of intercourse with any human being. Twenty-one months have passed, and in that brief interval she has learned a language and can

talk with her fingers; she has taken the full kindergarten course, and its weaving, pasting, folding, sewing, and all its handiwork have been beautifully executed by her skilful fingers, while her intelligent mind has learned to work from directions, to describe clearly, and to perform accurately its simple mathematics. She takes her part in the kindergarten games and in the gymnastic exercises of her schoolmates. She reads embossed books, and to say that she has learned to spell is needless, since her acquaintance with language was made by spelling every word in the manual alphabet. She is learning to write with pencil and has already made a good beginning in oral speech. What little girl with all her senses could have accomplished more than this in the short space of twenty-one months?

With all this mental and physical growth and the development of manual dexterity, there is a corresponding unfolding of the finer elements of her nature. Her dormant affections have been awakened; she loves her teacher, schoolmates and friends, and gladly receives and bestows caresses and other tokens of affection. Her reason is helping her to govern her strong will, and her intercourse with those around her, while it is stimulating and broadening her mind and softening her heart, has already brought within her reach the natural and innocent delights of happy childhood.

Last summer Willie made a visit to Miss Poulsson, an experienced kindergartner and a dear friend of the little girl. She has kindly allowed the following account of her visit to be printed:

Willie was allotted a pretty room and her belongings were arranged in it for her; then she was shown how everything was disposed so that she would not be at a loss to get articles that she needed. She is an orderly being, and accustomed, like the other children at the kindergarten, to some of the daily care of her own room; so every morning before breakfast her bedclothes had a vigorous pulling apart and spreading out preparatory to the neat and systematic bed-making which came later. On the first morning after her

arrival the servant put Willie's room in order as a matter of course. When Willie went upstairs and found the work done she made great investigations and expressed some dissatisfaction. Her nightdress was *rolled*, not neatly folded! And there was actually a *wrinkle* in the sheet which could be felt through the counterpane. How shocking! Out came the nightdress in a twinkling. It was unfurled with a swift, dramatic sweep, carefully folded, and laid smoothly at the back of the pillow. The sheet was pulled up, the pillow spatted into elegant shape and satisfaction reigned.

It was explained to Willie that Susan had only the best intentions in making the bed and that she had not known how nicely little girls could do that for themselves. And Susan was instructed to give Willie the opportunity of keeping up her useful and tidy habits. So, every day, after breakfast, Willie flitted upstairs and arranged her room with neatness and dispatch before proceeding to anything else.

It was amusing to watch the graceful child as she made her dainty toilet. Though some one was always in her room or near at hand to render help if necessary, Willie was often unconscious of the observing eye. How she *loved* a good refreshing bath! How she laved and splashed herself! And how vigorously and minutely she attended to the proper drying of her pretty body.

The bath being over, next came the putting on of the soft wrapper and pink knitted slippers, the letting out of the bath water, and then the trip to her own room for the completion of her toilet. When the time came for arranging her hair, if allowed the valued privilege of doing it herself, she would stand before the bureau tugging at the tangles until every hair was straight and free. Then would come the brushing, continued till the gold shone out and the surface felt glossy as satin to her tiny palm. After this there was the braiding, and the tying,—first with a string and then with ribbon;—and when all was completed, if was generally a very trig looking little headpiece that was submitted for

inspection. The braid might have a few hairs askew, the string might not be quite concealed by the overlaid ribbon, but the golden sheen of the bang had never a cross line to mar it.

The same appreciation of the beauty of order, the same graceful deftness and willingness to heap up the measure of doing, were shown in all that this small lady did, whether task or play. There was not the least vanity in her toilet elaborations nor in the regard which she had for her best hats and frocks. These were attended to and appreciated in their proper time and place, and that was all.

Willie soon knew the house perfectly. An abounding love of physical freedom, due to the normalness of the child-nature, generally led her into leaps and rushes when going up or down stairs, and it was delightful to see the lively dash she would make the instant her groping hand had found the newel-post. Her sense of direction is strong and she seldom made mistakes in starting or turning when going about the house, or in facing toward home after having made a call. That she might indulge in a good free run without danger from obstructions she was taken sometimes to a grassy slope in Boston Common, where, in the cool and pleasant dusk, she could have a fine scamper. Such fun as it was, playing tag, running races and sitting on the grass between-times tying rings of grass upon each other's fingers! The only drawback to complete bliss in connection with this last pastime, was Willie's magnified expectation as to the length of time one should keep a grass ring *en evidence*. Those which she tied with the utmost care on the fingers of her grown up companion always disappeared before her own, which, with suitable treatment, lasted a day or two! She couldn't understand it.

During Willie's vacation the lady of the house undertook to do a little painting. The main part of the painting had been done previously, but that of the doorsills remained and the paint was on hand, and in danger of drying up. So it was decided to utilize the paint and get the job finished in

spite of a few days' discomfort. The fact that the doorsills were to be made to look very fresh and nice, with first a coat of paint and then a coat of varnish, was explained to Willie. She entered into the spirit of the undertaking, rejoiced in the prospective freshness, and sympathized completely when told that Mistress Loretta would be sorry to have footmarks upon the newly-painted doorsills, and would be so glad if Willie would try to step over them as much as she could. To tell the truth, Mistress Loretta had made up her mind very calmly to a few little tracks of Willie's; but she had duly warned all the heavy, great-footed grown-ups of dire vengeance if *their* steps were imprinted upon her strips of paint or varnish. Well! *Everybody in the house except Willie*, in moments of haste and forgetfulness, trod with varying depths of imprint upon those unfortunate sills, Mistress Loretta herself being no better than she should be in that respect; but no one ever saw Willie fail in remembrance or make a misstep as long as the embargo lasted. When she came to a doorway she would put out her hands to its sides, consider a second or two, and then take the long step which was going to please Mistress Loretta and preserve the beauty of the house. The dear child could have cleared half a dozen door-sills with the generous stride she made, bless her!

One day Willie was riding in a horsecar when there came a great jar. "What was that?" spelled Willie's nimble fingers.

"A heavy wagon knocked against our horsecar," explained her friend. "What is *against*?" spelled Willie. Then came one of the word lessons which are given so often by the way with these children. "I knock my foot *against* yours"; "I push *against* you"; "The wind blows *against* your face"; spelled the friend, choosing sentences which she could illustrate to Willie then and there. Willie soon understood, was glad no one had been hurt and closed the discussion of the incident by remarking politely: "We will excuse the wagon."

She was always very dainty and ladylike in her table manners. No one could be more concerned than herself if she made a spot upon the linen. She fed herself very neatly, and kept the most seraphic patience when her fork went up again and again to her expectant mouth with nothing upon it to reward her labor and her expectations. Her sense of smell is very keen. She could tell what fruit there was upon the table before sitting down, and would often know the varieties of vegetables as they were carried into the room on a tray. The folding of her napkin was a work of conscientious exactitude, though she showed signs sometimes that she would gladly have delegated the task to Susan if encouraged to that laxity. But Willie's friends felt in duty bound not to let her lose what had been gained in general training; so, though it was a plan much against the feelings of "the natural man," they tried to guide Willie in doing things for herself and others, rather than take the easier course of doing too much for her themselves.

If any one were a little "under the weather" and Willie discovered it, she was faithfully thoughtful in making inquiries and offering services. She had a slight indisposition during the summer vacation, and was naturally watched with great care. She knew that she was in an atmosphere of sympathy and love, and therefore accepted it all in good part when, on coming down to breakfast one morning at this time, her friends failed in making the usual polite inquiries after her state of health. She gave her pretty cheerful greetings, and settled down to the eating of fruit and porridge, but soon, reaching out one hand to a neighbor at table, she proffered affably the remark, "I am better, thank you."

It was proposed that Willie should be taken to the seaside. Its joys were recounted to her and she was told that one of the kindergarten teachers, whom she loves very much, would be there. Willie danced with pleasure. She did not know exactly how to express such wonderful delight, but she did the best she could by clapping her hands ecstasically and spelling with rapid fingers, "Laugh! Smiles! Fun! Joy!"

"Laugh, smiles, fun, joy," she did indeed have at Clark's Island. Brimful of liveliness and dearly loving a romp, she was ready for any fun by land or sea. She investigated the wharf and the shore, went boating in dories and sailboats and revelled like a mermaid in salt water. During the bathing hour she splashed and ducked and floated and tried to swim as eagerly as any one. When she came home from Clark's Island she used to represent the scene of these delightful doings with her building blocks. It took two or three boxes of blocks, a large expanse of table-top, and a good deal of time for the representation. The ingenuity displayed was surprising. On the shore she had placed irregular piles of blocks here and there to represent rocks; bath houses—very good copies of the original architecture—occupied the back ground; a dory, well shaped fore and aft, was moored at the side of the wharf; the wharf itself, long, narrow and of quite a height, ran far out into the water and terminated in a flight of steps, just as the real wharf did. It was explained by Willie that the sand lay all about on the shore. She would show you the whole thing by taking hold of your fore finger (the rest of your hand being closed and as much out of the way as possible) and having you feel the irregularities of the rocks, the smoothness of the sand, the shape of the bath houses (with their doors which shut and open) and of the dory with its regular outline and narrow seats. Then she would walk your fingers carefully along the out-running wharf and down the steps at the end. *There* she knew that the water was very deep; but how could that fact be represented? This puzzled her a long while, and it was a great triumph when she finally conceived a way;—which way was, to build a high wall of blocks enclosing a large space beyond the shore and thus associate the idea of depth with the space which the salt water occupied.

When the end of the summer came, Willie went back to the kindergarten with her recuperated teacher, both of them happy to be together again

INTELLIGENCE.

RAMABAI ASSOCIATION.

POONA, January 27, 1893.

My dear Mrs. Andrews,—

I have long been wishing to write to you, but work has been pressing and time limited. I was very pleased to have your very kind letter,—so long ago now that I do not like to refer to the date. However, I hope you will kindly forgive me, and allow me, though late, to offer you my best wishes for the New Year. I trust it may be one of real blessing and great happiness to you.

I often see our friend the Pundita Ramabai; we are near neighbors now, and within easy reach of each other. The more I see of her noble work, the more I am convinced of its importance and sterling worth. I wish you could just peep in upon her and her happy family of girl-widows, as I do so often, and see those once downtrodden, miserable beings converted into happy, bright, intelligent young girls, with the light of love and freedom shining in their eyes, where once only fear, shrinking and misery were seen. If you could hear their shouts of happy girlish laughter when at their play, or see them earnestly bending over their lessons, or learning to sing, or sitting down to a wholesome, sufficient meal in pleasant surroundings; and if you could know *from what they have been rescued*, you would agree with me that no money spent on them can be considered too much.

The Pundita-bai has now 38 bona fide widows, besides 11, I think, who are unmarried girls. Of the above, 37 are

Brahmins and all the rest of good caste. To me these figures speak eloquently of the estimation in which the institution is beginning to be held ; for I know how difficult it is to get even one. I have no doubt that now the numbers will increase, and the work prosper more than it has hitherto done.

Pundita-bai is going the right way to work in making them useful and happy. The government school schedule defines the curriculum of study, but beyond and above this she is training them to be thrifty, tidy, helpful and energetic. I was delighted to find that they cook by turns, give out the stores for the day, keep accounts, sweep, clean, wash, etc., besides preparing their lessons for school. It is a liberal education in the true sense of the term. I have been over the premises again and again, and have been struck by the charming cleanliness, neatness and order that prevail throughout. Such surroundings must elevate the character of these dear Hindu widows ; it cannot fail to refine their minds. The Pundita-bai seems to have done all that thought and care could suggest for the comfort and well-being of her charges. No description, however full, can adequately express what these girl-widows are here receiving. Their cooking, sleeping, and bathing arrangements, are all that can be desired by the most exacting and Orthodox Hindu. Everything seems to be done in such a methodical manner. I find that the older girls take it by turns to dispense medicines when any of their number are ill, and to nurse the sick ones. They are all taught to do something, even the little ones. I am sure that with God's blessing, she will succeed in educating these girls so that they will become useful members of society, either in the medical profession or as teachers, housekeepers, or nurses, instead of being, as they would otherwise be, a burden to their friends. After school they go into the gardens and find healthful exercise in digging, planting and watering ; a wall and high fence shield them from the public gaze. Then I have seen the Pundita, in her white robes, with her maid-

ens around her, giving a lesson in botany in the garden, and I am sure she feels more than repaid by their earnest attention and awakening intelligence. I cannot too strongly emphasize the necessity of providing her with more rooms for her pupils. The accommodation she has is barely sufficient, and unless she has a separate house for the day-school, she will not be able to carry out her excellent system. As it is, the girls sleep too closely together for health and convenience, and should she get more pupils, as is very likely, it will be unwholesome to crowd them together into the space at her disposal. It seems to me to be not only desirable, but absolutely necessary for her work to have the new building which she has begun, finished and that very soon, for it would be such a pity if she had to refuse any widows for want of room. I should like to go on writing, but I must desist now, lest I weary you. I cannot help feeling grateful to you dear people for all the help you are giving to this good work. Many in this land will arise and call you blessed. You are wiping the widows' tears, and making life bright for many a sad, hopeless heart. May God bless and reward you a hundredfold.

With kindest regards, believe me,

Dear Mrs. Andrews, sincerely yours,

F. SORABJI.

LETTERS FROM PUPILS.

SHARADA SADAN, 27th of January, 1893.

Our dear Friends,—

We have not written a letter to you for five months. The last letter which we received from you was in April. I think you would be very glad if I tell you the news which happened since August. Last year there were only forty girls, but now there are 49 girls in this school.

Out of 8 new young widows, three have each a daughter, two of these girls are about three and four years old, and the third is two years old, and they have much improved in the short time since they came, for then they cried much

and were so obstinate and would not allow their mothers to leave them for the purpose of attending school. The change is so great now that not only do they allow their mothers to come to school, but they only too often accompany them.

If the school goes on as it is at present I think hereafter there will be a great change among our Hindy country people who don't like our school now, but will like it in the future; and I am sure that it will happen so, because at first when this school opened most of our people did not like it at all; but now some of them who didn't like our school at first come to see it and are pleased with it, and say to Pundita-bai, "It will be very nice for India if you open another school for widows."

I am very glad to tell you that all of us are improving in everything, and are trying to do our best and act more kindly with love and gratitude, and may this new year be a happy one to you.

I remain, your loving and dutiful

KASHIBAI GOKHALE.

SHARADA SADAN, POONA, January 27, '93.

Dear American Friends,—

About a year has passed since I sent you a letter. Our dear Ramabai expressed her wish for us to write you a letter. You helped us so kindly, not only with your words but with your labors and money for which we are grateful to you. We are in our new house which is far more comfortable than the old one. There are many flowering trees in our garden, and they have different kinds of flowers. And there is a fountain too. Our house is surrounded with a stone wall. There is a dormitory with an upper story. Some girls sleep upstairs and some downstairs. When we stand up on the roof of the new dormitory we can see the lovely scenery which surrounds Poona. In the evening, by way of taking exercise, we have to draw water from the well and to work in the garden. I have been here three years. When I came I could only read Marathi a very little. Now I am in

the Marathi fifth and English third standard. I hope to learn a great deal. I hope God will satisfy my desire about learnings. I am very sorry that you are far from us. When some American comes here to see our school my thoughts are always with you, and I think that this is one individual of the nation which helps us. Before I came here I had not hope that I should be able to write an English letter to you and receive letters from you, but I am glad I can do it now. I cannot write very much, but I will try to write it well.

I thank you all for your kindness to me, an unfortunate little widow, and pray to God that he may bless you.

With much love, I remain, yours sincerely,

KASHI DAVDHUR.

MONTHLY MEETING.

The monthly meeting of representatives of Lend a Hand Clubs was held March 27th at the Lend a Hand office. Dr. Hale presided, and ten members were present.

Mrs. Whitman spoke of the Syrian woman who had been sent to the Lend a Hand office by Dr. Hale. Dr. Hale gave a most interesting account of the manner in which he had made her acquaintance. She had come to this country hoping to earn money to educate her children. She had brought with her embroideries and textures from Syria, and also many articles of her own handiwork. She did not wish for alms, but to sell her goods and earn her livelihood. A notice in one of the daily papers had brought some customers, and Lend a Hand members had kindly aided in disposing of many of her articles. A few days before, she had gone to New Jersey, where she had left two of her children at school. A letter was read from her thanking the Lend a Hand Clubs for their kindness. "This woman is the real woman from Syro-Phoenicia," said Dr. Hale.

A report was read from the chairman of the Noon Day Rest Committee. From two hundred and five to two hundred and twenty-five girls have visited the Rest daily for the

past month. A happier or more satisfied set of girls cannot be found. Mrs. Macmahon spoke of the small quarters and the great necessity of larger accommodations, and asked that the committee would give it serious attention. Umbrella stands and fifteen dollars in money have been contributed during the month.

The committee discussed freely the propriety of a change of location, and it was agreed that as soon as better rooms could be found, arrangements should be made for the change.

Mrs. Whitman reported that money had been sent to her to expend for a young woman who had fallen and injured her spine, and was now in a hospital. It was voted to pay her board and then send her to her home in Nova Scotia.

Mrs. Hardy read a letter from Miss Beard of Montgomery, Alabama, thanking the "Together Club" for generous help to a crippled colored girl who was much in need. The "Together Club" of Arlington sent the girl a wheel chair in addition to a large box of clothing.

Mrs. Whitman said that some money had been sent to her for the "uncomplaining teacher," in whom the committee are especially interested, and that the teachers of Boston were contributing for her relief.

Dr. Hale spoke of his visit to New York, where he had met Mr. Bowker, one of the oldest "Ten Times One" members. Mr. Bowker had taken him to Delancy street to see the home of the Social Reform Society. The society has leased a six story tenement house. In the lower story is a kindergarten and a Club in the evening. There are other rooms for dancing, reading, lectures and classes. Some of the men live permanently in the house. The first circulars of the society were printed in English, but the people of the neighborhood were not able to read them. The circulars were then translated into German, but with no better success. They are now printed in the Hebrew characters, and fulfil their mission.

ANNUAL MEETING OF CLUBS.

The annual meeting of Lend a Hand Clubs will be held at Park street Vestry, Boston, Wednesday, May 31st, at 3

P. M. It is hoped that every Club, which can make it convenient to be represented, will send at least one delegate. Seats will be reserved for Club members.

LETTER FROM MRS. CHANT.

March 6th, '93. }
49 Gower street. }

MY DEAR DR. HALE:—

Yes, indeed! I hope to be with you in anniversary week, and to give loving heartfelt service as a Lend a Hand should. How glad I am of the warm welcome of your letter.

It was a great disappointment to me not to be present at the reception given to you in London, but I was all over the country doing my utmost to get as much righteousness into the General Election for Parliament as one loving fire-full soul can! And then I fell ill nearly to death. Here I am in a Welsh seaside town, where I preached twice yesterday, sang to the whole congregation after the evening service, and then a mighty crowd from other churches swarmed in for a great temperance meeting. I spoke for half an hour and then came home, glad to think how little fatigue there is in the service of God and man compared with that in the service of self. And now good bye for the present. May we have a splendid success next May!

With kindest regards, and love from my little son who proudly wears the badge you sent him,

I, who do ditto, remain your sincere,

L. ORMISTON CHANT.

CLUB REPORTS.

LEWISTON, MAINE.

The Young Woman's Reading Room, Lend a Hand Club, was organized Nov. 5, 1892, with eight members.

Here are some of the ways in which we have tried to "Lend a Hand":

We send a young lady to read to the patients at the hospital once a week, and Sunday afternoons some of our girls sing to them.

At Christmas we collected what articles of clothing, toys, and food we could and distributed them among the poor of our city, through our police matron, Mrs. Foss. Here is a partial list of the things collected: 60 bags candy, 23 dolls, 8 pairs mittens, 1 large Bible, 4 boxes games, 9 books, 13 pairs stockings, 3 white shirts, 9 suits of under flannels, 10 cloaks, 11 hats and caps, several boys' coats, 6 dresses, 1 skirt, several coats and vests, several pairs boots and shoes, coffee, salt, sugar, doughnuts and pies. Mrs. Foss came to our rooms Christmas morning expecting to carry away in her arms what few things we might have for her, but after looking round a few minutes she decided to go after one of the city teams to remove them to her office, that she might look them over, and the better tell where they would do the most good.

We also sent a Christmas bouquet to each of the patients at the hospital, and other sick friends.

We endeavor to have all young ladies, especially those who are not Christians, attend our Sunday afternoon prayer meeting at the reading room, hoping that in this way some may be led to accept Christ.

Mrs. C. T. Nevens and Mrs. Georgia Fenderson of Auburn, have been taking charge of these meetings of late, and have made them especially interesting; quite a number have expressed a desire to become Christians. We have held nine meetings of the club, and our members now number twenty-three.

This winter we have devoted an evening each to Longfellow and Whittier, at which the members answered to roll-call by quotations from the author of the evening. Recitations and music made up an interesting programme.

Several prayer meetings have been held in the Corporation Boarding Houses with good results.

We are busy people and cannot do great things for the Master, but we trust that God will bless the little done "In His Name."

AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Our "Try in Earnest Club" of boys received a beautiful Christmas story from our kind old friend Rev. E. E. Hale, for which we return many thanks. We wish also to send our kindest wishes for his long continued health and happiness, and a word of good cheer from our club. We are awaking to new life with an addition of a few younger members.

Some of our first ones have outgrown our little deeds, and are busy in high schools and colleges. We are at present engaged in raising money to assist the boys at Good Will Home in East Fairfield, Maine. We hope you may have a good report for us in May. Enclosed you will find one dollar for the Central Office work in Boston.

We do many little deeds of kindness, but have not raised much money the past year; cannot give up our name, still have courage and a hope of doing more this new year.

SUGGESTION.

The clubs at Dedham, Mass., are never idle. They give generously, and in order to give, there must be a treasury to draw on.

Their latest attempt at money-making was a magazine party, and the Send Me Circle represented the table of contents. It was so successful that the RECORD may like to give it to other clubs. The programme was printed in this way:

SEND ME MAGAZINE.

April 7, 1893.

CONTENTS.

FRONTISPIECE.

TABLEAU,

POEM,

Art, Music, Literature.

The Spinning Song.

Illustrated in Pantomime.

SONG.

POEM,

The Barefoot Boy.

Illustrated.

MINUET.

COMEDIETTA,
SONG.

A Picked-up Dinner.

ADVERTISEMENTS,
TABLEAUX,

} Oriental Rugs.
} Baker's Cocoa.
} None Such Pie Meat.
} Peach Blossom, and others.

GREAT NECK LEAGUE.

That a town of about fifteen hundred inhabitants, with no large manufacturing or other industrial enterprises, should have a building well equipped and centrally located, devoted to the well-being of the young men living in its borders, would certainly strike the inquiring visitor as worthy of an explanation. It also seems desirable to place on record some of the facts connected with its short history, for the purpose of giving the future historian of the coming city of Great Neck, the material he should have, to show clearly where the then senators, judges, and millionaires acquired the mental and moral characteristics that have marked their successful career in life.

The town of to-day with its straggling business street, wandering from the railroad station, a mile south of the village, past the beautiful Episcopal church, to the steamboat landing, has many natural beauties and would attract the artist or tourist to linger long in its pleasant paths. The fine residences on the shore, and the growing popularity of this region as a summer resort, also attest the coming prosperity of the town.

But alas, like too many other communities of similar attractions, there was no place of resort or pleasure that was not dedicated to the sale of liquors and the consequent ruin of the manhood of its frequenters and patrons.

That a dozen or more saloons should open their doors nightly and offer all the attractions they could invent to the men of Great Neck was a grief to many, and there was aroused a determination to offset this by a better plan. As Orpheus is said to have overcome the allurements of the sirens by

making sweeter music, so a way was conceived to give better pleasures at less cost to the men of the town than they could get at the saloons and other resorts open on every hand.

To plan was to perform; and taking as a motto, "The time is short," the advice of those of experience in the work for men and of trusted friends was taken, and soon an opportunity was found to carry out practically the plans so made. One of the saloons in the town was found to be for sale. With its large barroom and dance hall, and a good sized dwelling house connected, it offered many desirable features for the proposed work.

This was purchased last spring and the renovation and refitting began at once.

The barroom became a room for games, where billiards, pool, checkers, chess and other amusements are open to the members.

Donations of papers, magazines and other entertaining and instructive matter were made, until the list includes two New York dailies, with *Harper's* and *Leslie's Weeklies*, *Life*, *Puck*, *Judge* and the *Scientific American*, *Scribner's* and *Harper's*, *Outing* and *Century* monthly magazines.

A committee and reference room adjoining, has been fitted up with a table, desk and book shelves, etc., and stationery and other materials are at the service of the members. The circulating library of Great Neck, of some eight hundred volumes, has taken up its abode in another room, and helps to center here the interests of its patrons. The dance hall has received a piano and over one hundred chairs, and is constantly used for entertainments and lectures, while each Sunday evening a praise service is held there which attracts most of the families within convenient walking distance of the League.

It has been hoped to provide here a place where any stranger, transiently in town, could find lodging and food, and this feature of usefulness will probably be made more prominent another season.

• Already it has furnished shelter to one of the writers of *The Churchman* who took occasion to spend his short vacation here, and unawares took notes which furnished him with a short article for his paper which appeared upon the first of last October.

To have gathered a membership of over one hundred, or nearly one in each three of the voting population; to have had a nightly attendance of over a dozen young men, and often fifty or more present on special occasions; to have given lectures and entertainments to the members and their families, and thus to have afforded instruction and amusement such as ordinarily is given only to those in cities; and to have kept constantly before the community as a most helpful object lesson this daily beacon of good cheer and protest against evil: truly this was a work worthy of any philanthropist, and to be reckoned as an enduring monument even in this day of devotion to the elevation of mankind, and the many practical methods devised to do good "In His Name."

As the work of the League will be noticed from week to week in these columns, and reports will be given of the various methods used and the results achieved, we trust it will bring it all more prominently, if possible, before our friends and interest those who as yet have taken no special or personal part in any of its doings.

As it has become a permanent institution among us, it should have the active co-operation of every one to sustain and promote its success.

NEIGHBORHOOD GUILD.

The Neighborhood Guild has moved from Forsyth street to Delancey street, in New York. It now occupies the whole of one of the large tenement-houses in that quarter, and is interesting to persons who have never visited in those quarters as showing what are the plans on which they are laid out. The lower room is now occupied by a kindergarten, which is in regular daily operation. Immediately above it is the reading-room,

well provided for. This reading-room seems likely to prove attractive in the neighborhood. By the opening of a room with a new floor laid for dancing, and by very careful arrangements, of which we have had some account, for well-conducted dancing parties on Saturday evenings, the Guild has undoubtedly increased its acquaintance in the neighborhood, and has provided, under sensible and prudent conditions, a legitimate entertainment to young men and young women, and a pleasant opportunity for social intercourse. In the upper stories, arrangements are made for the residence of several gentlemen who interest themselves in the different classes and lectures which the Guild proposes. It is not proposed that these gentlemen shall take all their meals here, nor are there any provisions for such a purpose; but they can have breakfast and supper served here, and the fact that they are themselves living in a tenement-house, close in touch with the crowded inhabitants of a crowded ward, makes it far easier for them to carry on the various activities of public spirit in which they are engaged.

It is quite worth while for any person who is curious about the improvement of the most crowded sections of the world to make a visit to Delancey street, and see what arrangements are in progress there. The neighborhood of Delancey street to the Women's College Settlement in Rivington street gives additional opportunities to each of the two institutions.

The Neighborhood Guild has lately called together meetings of the teachers of the neighborhood, for frank conference as to what can be best done for the children of the district, and it is proposed to hold similar meetings of the physicians of the neighborhood. Dr. Coit himself, who has been so active in the preparatory plans, which have led to the present firm foundation of the Neighborhood Guild, will have sailed for Europe before our readers see these lines. He has some engagements to meet, in connection with Toynbee Hall, and the other institutions of a similar kind in London, and will bring home, as may be hoped, new suggestions for the activities of the Neighborhood Guild here.

A LETTER.

MR. EDITOR :

We hear quite enough in these days of the need of labor organizations to protect the laboring man against his employers. Is there any power on earth to protect the laboring man against the labor organizations? I have just heard a story that cuts me to the quick. May I endeavor to tell it as it was told to me?

A fine young fellow came over here with his family from Ireland. One of them lived in my household, and two in that of a friend of mine. They all seemed of good stock, strongly attached to one another, steady, ready, warm-hearted, serviceable and trusty,—of just the sort of emigrants who ought to be warmly welcomed. The least that could be expected for them was that they should be let alone to take care of themselves. They might naturally suppose that in leaving “the old country,” they were leaving oppression behind, and coming to a land where an honest man might find himself free and independent.

The hero of my story however, wishing to be a stone-cutter, as his father was before him, found himself confronted by an army of organized stone-cutters. Of small use would it have been for him to beg

“A brother of the earth
To give him leave to toil.”

He was obliged to “obtain this freedom with a great sum of money,” for a poor man to pay from his brothers of the earth; and these unbrotherly brothers, be it observed, were no greedy capitalists, but employees,—organized laborers, sham Knights of Labor, or what not? What short work a few of the real knights would have made of them if they had been there!

For a few years things went on pretty well. Then a strike was ordered by his self-constituted masters. The industrious, sensible young man—now a husband and a father, was utterly opposed to it, as industrious, sensible husbands and fathers are wont to be; but he had no escape.

One of his poor sisters had a long, dangerous and costly illness; others of his family helped him as they could out of their earnings. He would have been thankful to work at half or quarter pay. He made the most of every cent. He hung about an employment office for weeks. The officials were kind and sorry, but helpless. He went into more than one of the Middle States in vain. He suffered miserably for more than a twelvemonth, during which, I understand, another child was born to him. His handsome, happy face grew haggard with want and worry. He is unlikely ever to get back to the condition of modest thrift in which he was before the "strike."

How much longer are intelligent (ought-to-be) freemen to submit to these lawless tyrannies?

Believe me, Mr. Editor,

Very respectfully yours,

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